

THE ACADEMY.

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WHILE much good work has been done on early periods of English history, it is desirable that the eighteenth century, and above all the important reign of George III., should receive more attention. Mr. Lecky and Mr. G. O. Trevelyan have recently treated its early years, though from different points of view; and Mr. Oscar Browning, whose article in the *Fortnightly Review* of February, 1884, on the outbreak of the war between England and France in 1793, was a valuable piece of historical criticism, has in the present volume published a useful authority for future historians. The actual events of the reign of George III. are well enough attested by the Annual Register, and the various magazines and newspapers of the period; but the secret history of the selfish policy of the noblemen who regarded government office as their birthright has never yet been elucidated. The diaries of Lord Malmesbury and Mr. Windham, and some of the best biographies, such as Lord Albemarle's *Memorials of the Marquis of Rockingham*, Lord John Russell's *Memorials of Fox*, Macknight's *Life of Burke*, the Duke of Buckingham's *Courts and Cabinets of George III.*, and Lord E. Fitzmaurice's *Life of Lord Shelburne* have thrown a broad light on many dark places of court and parliamentary intrigue; but there must still be an immense amount of material hidden away in the archives of the great Whig families or in old country houses, which would fill in blank spaces in the complicated history of parties and governments, and which, it is to be hoped, may also contain some such interesting memoranda as those of the Duke of Leeds. By a lucky chance the authorities of the British Museum purchased the Osborne papers for a very small sum in 1869, and it is among them that Mr. Browning discovered the series of notes which he now edits. These political memoranda are contained in five paper books of 6½ by 7½ inches, four note-books 4 by 7½ inches, and one note-book 4 by 6½ inches. They are not in the form of a continuous diary, but consist rather of small detached diaries of important epochs and episodes. Far more generally interesting are the eight volumes of the Leeds letters, which might serve as the complement of these memoranda, and which contain the private letters of the foreign ambassadors, which were always sent with their official despatches to the Secretary of State, and other important political correspondence, bound up with begging letters and papers relating to magistracy business.

Francis Godolphin Osborne, fifth Duke of Leeds, was a man of slender capacity but some education, who owed the high and important offices which he held rather to his birth and his industry than to any brilliant parts. He was born in 1751, married in 1773 to the Baroness Conyers (who eloped with Capt. Byron, the father of the poet), and divorced in 1778; sat in the House of Commons from 1774 to 1776; was called up to the House of Lords in his father's barony in 1776; was a Lord of the Bedchamber from 1776 to 1777, and Chamberlain to the Queen 1777 to January, 1780; was Lord Lieutenant of the East Riding of Yorkshire from July, 1778, till his dismissal for opposing Lord North on February 8, 1780; was Secretary of State in Pitt's Ministry from 1784 to 1791; was made a Knight of the Garter in 1789, and died in 1799. This rapid enumeration of the different offices he held, shows what good opportunities he had for obtaining correct information, and as he wrote down every day during an important crisis a full account of all that he had heard or done, his memoranda have a truth and originality about them which make them far more trustworthy than the entries in Lord Malmesbury's diary, which were generally written after conversations with that most unreliable of mortals, Alexander Wedderburne, Lord Loughborough. The first epochs treated by the Duke of Leeds (then Marquis of Carmarthen), in this diary fashion, are the fall of Lord North's administration, the formation of the Rockingham cabinet, the Shelburne government, which appointed him ambassador to Paris, though he never went, the coalition of Fox and Lord North, and his own acceptance of office as Secretary of State under Pitt. During his secretaryship he considered four periods of sufficient importance to himself to analyse them in his memoranda, his accession to office, his attempt to form a system of foreign alliances to counteract France, the dispute about the Regency at the time of the King's madness in 1788, and the question of the Russian armament in 1791, when the Duke of Leeds desired more active measures to be taken in alliance with Prussia against Russia, and when, on his policy being rejected, he resigned. After his resignation of office, he treats at length (32 pp.) the attempt made in 1792 to form a coalition between Pitt and Fox with himself as premier, which utterly failed, and in his last memoranda he describes the disputes between the Prince and Princess of Wales in 1794, 1795, and 1796.

Very interesting are many of the opinions which he gives of the great statesmen of his day—not, indeed, of his own formation, but reported as held by others—and in many cases he gives the very words in which these opinions were spoken. Thus Lord Thurlow "could not help observing that Dundas was the most impudent fellow he ever knew" (p. 147), and the Duke of York "expressed his bad opinion and confirmed detestation of Sheridan in the strongest terms" (p. 200). But as to the greatest of all the statesmen whom he knew, William Pitt, he is singularly reticent. He evidently bore with impatience the authoritative rule of the great Premier over his colleagues; and though he nowhere, even in these secret memoranda, dares to exhibit his dislike of the great statesman, he declares

that he is too much inclined to follow the advice of those who professed to be his friends, and by implication to neglect the Duke of Leeds himself. Two passages as to Pitt's policy alone deserve quotation, as showing that Pitt was a peace Minister, and would do anything to avoid war which did not commit the honour of England too far. Thus in 1784, at the very commencement of Pitt's Government, he says:—

"I was very happy to find our ideas were similar on the great object of separating, if possible, the House of Austria from France, as likewise a degree of desire to form some system on the Continent in order to counterbalance the House of Bourbon, though at the same time the strongest conviction of the necessity of avoiding, if possible, the entering into any engagement likely to embroil us in a new war" (p. 101).

On the question of the Russian armament in 1791 Pitt made every sacrifice to avoid war—to such an extent, indeed, that after threatening Russia by the equipment of a large fleet, and even sending despatches to Berlin to promise support to the King of Prussia if he advanced his armies and declared war, he refused to do more than threaten, and withdrew his promise of support to Prussia two days after the messenger had been sent off. It was on this question of a vigorous anti-Russian policy that the Duke of Leeds resigned, and he reports the following "very extraordinary words" of Lord Thurlow on the subject:—

"I do not believe that there can be any danger of a war while the present ministers continue in place; what can they go to war for? We have given up everything for which a war could be commenced, and after swallowing this disgrace what other disgrace can we scruple to swallow" (p. 170).

Such was the opinion of a shrewd observer of the Ministry which two years afterwards commenced the longest war of modern times—the great war with France.

Burke, of course, a man of the mental calibre of the Duke of Leeds necessarily failed to understand, but the following remark of Lord Shelburne's in the April of 1781 is worth quoting:—"There is no dealing with Mr. Burke, he is so violently attached to his own opinion that there is no arguing with him, and has got so much ascendancy over Lord Rockingham, that I protest I see no method of doing anything" (p. 30). Far more interesting, especially in this day of a new franchise bill for the benefit of the agricultural labourer, is a remark made by Charles James Fox to the Duke of Leeds in 1794:—

"In mentioning reports of a different nature he had heard respecting the sentiments of the lower order of people, he made use of this (for him) very remarkable expression, that the husbandmen and labourers thought so little of public matters that he should as soon think of consulting the sheep on the propriety or impropriety of Peace as the people who had the care of them, or in general the lower order Peasantry. That in towns, from their ale-houses, clubs, &c., they turned their thoughts more to political subjects" (p. 213).

These few quotations will give an idea of the great value of these political memoranda, not in opening up new facts, but in giving the contemporary judgments of great states-

men, and occasionally their very words, on burning political questions. A thorough study of them gives convincing proof of the necessity of rewriting all the internal history of the cabinets of the reign of George III. Nobody has ever yet been able to deal adequately with those two able and shameless lawyers, Lords Thurlow and Loughborough, because the private diaries and memoranda of statesmen have not been published in sufficient number to strike a correct balance between their respective trustworthiness; and if it had done no more, this publication of the Camden Society's has fully proved the unreliability of Lord Malmesbury's diaries, on which, as Mr. Browning justly observes, historians have chiefly relied for the history of the coalitions attempted to be made between Pitt and Fox after the outbreak of the great war. It is to be hoped that the first Marquis of Stafford, who was Thurlow's great ally, and who also sat in Pitt's Cabinet, has left similar memoranda, and if so, it would be very acceptable to all historical students if Mr. Browning would edit them as a sequel to his present work. In conclusion, it may be said that Mr. Browning has done his editorial work well. The misprints of names, which are very numerous in the notes, are all corrected in the Errata on the final page, although he has forgotten to correct the date of Lord Guernsey's birth, which is misprinted 1721 for 1751 (p. 4). It is to be hoped that he will soon publish some original work on the Ministry of Pitt, after he has concluded his long researches in the Record Office and the British Museum, which will more than justify the high expectations that have been raised by his able article in the *Fortnightly*.

H. MORSE STEPHENS.

History of the Relations of the Government with the Hill Tribes on the North-East Frontier of Bengal. By Alexander Mackenzie. (Calcutta: Home Department Press; London: Trübner.)

IN 1869 Mr. Mackenzie, then Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal, compiled for official use a "Memorandum on the North-East Frontier of Bengal," in which he summarised the history of our dealings with the tribes from Bhután to Chittagong from the date of Capt. Pemberton's Report of 1835 to the year in which he wrote. This Memorandum has long been well known to all officers whose work is concerned with the field of which it treats. In the lack of local records—for nearly every cutcherry or courthouse in Assam has at one time or another suffered from the destruction of its contents by fire—it supplied a stock of information the value of which was amply proved by constant experience.

The "Memorandum" was, however, but a brief summary, without references to the original sources of information from which it was compiled, and it was issued too early to contain mention of the important events which since its compilation have given its final form to our policy on the North-East border. In 1872 the last of the independent Gáros were brought under British rule, and since that date the claims and rights of all the neighbouring zemindars, whether in Goálpára or Maimensingh, over the people of the hills

have been extinguished, a new boundary drawn, and the district brought under a homogeneous and appropriate form of administration. In 1873-76 the series of survey expeditions, by which our knowledge of the Naga Hills as far as the Pátkoí has been vastly increased, was carried out; and in 1879 occurred the occupation of Kohima, the commanding position in the heart of the ruling Angámi villages grouped about the northern spurs of Jápvo, from which, instead of the unhealthy and unsuitable Samaguting, we now administer these hills. In 1869, 1870, and 1871, took place the raids by the Lushais on the frontiers of Cachar and Sylhet, followed by the expedition of 1871-72, which completely traversed their country, and has secured peace on that frontier for twelve years. Not to mention minor topics of interest, there was thus much additional matter which called for inclusion in the record; and, in recasting and enlarging his book, Mr. Mackenzie has added greatly to its value by close and continuous reference to the original sources on which he has worked.

Although essentially a manual of information for official use, and thus aiming at practical convenience rather than literary form, the volume is one which cannot fail to be interesting to all who care to study the development of British policy on a frontier where it is brought in contact, not with the aggressive and formidable borderers of the line of the Indus and the Sulaimán Range, inheritors of a militant creed, and trained by centuries of rapine, but with the almost wholly uncivilised tribes of Indo-Chinese race who occupy the mountains interposed between India and Tibet, China and Burmah—races ignorant of letters, divided in speech to an extraordinary degree, destitute of any religion but the simplest nature- or demon-worship, engaged in constant warfare among themselves and with one another, and generally characterised by a passion for the collection of human heads which has, in the majority of instances, led to the outrages the repression of which has been the beginning of our attempt to control them. The book is not a description of these tribes, and contains few materials from which a picture of them can be traced by one who is not already well acquainted with other sources of information; but it gives a complete account of the proceedings of British officers in regard to them, and the policy which, commencing in weakness and vacillation, and working its way very gradually to the decision which only adequate knowledge can give, has at last, it may be said, succeeded very tolerably in securing that peace which is the first condition both of internal progress in the neighbouring plains, and of the elevation in the human scale of the hill-men, whether within or without our borders.

The frontier of which it treats may be roughly divided into four portions: first, that lying beneath the Himálaya from Bhután to Sádiya, round the head of the Assam Valley by the Pátkoí, and the southern border of the Dibrugarh and Sibsaigar districts; secondly, the hills of the Assam chain from their western extremity as far as the water-shed joining the Baráil range to the Pátkoí; thirdly, the southern frontier of Cachar and

Sylhet, the state of Hill Tipperah, and the district of Chittagong; and fourthly, the protected state of Manipur, through which alone on this border contact is maintained with the semi-civilised territories of the kingdom of Burmah.

The first of these portions marks the territory inhabited by races who, when Assam passed under British rule, were found for the most part to have already established some sort of title to derive revenue from the adjacent plains under the name of *posá* or *pachá* (literally, contribution or subscription), or by the possession of rent-free land—a claim which has been admitted by our government, and used as a means of securing their good behaviour. It is not uncommon for critics of our policy on this frontier to speak of the fixed allowance or pension, dependent upon good conduct, into which this indefinite right of extortion, resting upon terror, has been commuted, as *black-mail*, and to enlarge upon the indignity which submission to such a tribute casts upon the government of the Queen. No one, however, who takes the pains to study the facts can fail to appreciate the difference between the two forms of payment; and no one acquainted with them can deny that the system which is followed on this border has led to excellent results. On all this line trade with the tribes immediately in contact with us is pretty active, and these are understood to supply, and to monopolise the profits of supplying, an interior zone of races, known to the Assamese as *Abors* or "untamed," with the wares which they carry from our markets. With the exception of the Nágas of southern Dibrugarh and Sibsaigar, they are not head-takers. Under the double guarantee of their commercial interests and their relation as our pensionaries, our intercourse with them is for the most part amicable. Along all this portion of our frontier is drawn what is called the "Inner Line"—a boundary within our territory beyond which British subjects are forbidden to go without special permission; complications are thus avoided, and the hill-men compelled to resort to centres of British administration when they wish to do business or to receive their pensions.

The second portion represents those tracts over which, in the sixty years since we first occupied Assam, it has been found necessary to extend our active administration. Except to the east, where the Assam chain merges in the Pátkoí, these hills are surrounded by British territory, and are occupied by races all of whom follow, or once followed, the custom of head-taking. Before we ever advanced into Assam or Cachar the Government were compelled, in 1817-22, to take special measures for the administration of the Gáro frontier; but it was not till 1866 that the only effective means of controlling this portion of the hills was adopted by the occupation of Tura in their midst. In 1829 the massacre of our officers at Nong-khláo led to the conquest of the Khási Hills, the peace of which—guaranteed by the location of a regiment, first at Cherrapunji and afterwards at Shillong, and by a road through them connecting Gauháti with Sylhet—has never since been disturbed, while their inhabitants, left to govern themselves under their own chiefs, are now one of the most thriving and prosper-

ous communities in India. The Jaintia Hills fell to us in 1835, surrendered voluntarily by their nominal ruler, whose small territory in the plains was annexed in that year as a punishment for kidnapping British subjects for sacrifice to Káli. North Cachar became British in the same year on the death of the last Cachári Rája, and the protection of its inhabitants against the raids of the Angámi Nágas ultimately led, after nearly half a century of attempts to avoid the necessity, to the occupation of the territory of the latter and their control from within. With what longanimity the authorities at Calcutta tried every expedient which they could devise short of annexation before they resorted to this last, the only effectual means of securing peace, may be read in Mr. Mackenzie's pages.

The third portion of our frontier is that where we march with various tribes of the Kuki race, the most important of whom are the Lushais, the "head takers" *par excellence*. At present we guard our border here by a complete chain of outposts, stretching from the Manipur frontier to Arrakan. The memory of the expedition of 1871-72, when their country was traversed to its heart by two columns of troops, one starting from Tipai-mukh, south of Cachar, and marching southwards, and the other operating from Chittagong northwards, has hitherto sufficed to secure our border from aggression in this quarter. But the nature of the Lushai tribal organisation, under a host of separate chiefs whose power rests on constant warfare, the causes of irritation which frequently arise owing to the withdrawal from allegiance and settlement in our territory of subject tribes, the aversion of the dominant race from agriculture and the exhaustion of the trade in ivory and rubber on which they have of late chiefly depended for subsistence, and, last but not least, the pressure of stronger races still unknown to us from the south and east, who are driving the Lushais before them, seem likely sooner or later to bring us again into conflict with the hill-men on this border.

Last comes the state of Manipur, which, after it had been obliterated from the map by the Burmese at the commencement of the present century, we again called into existence in 1825 as a barrier against future aggression from Ava upon Assam and Cachar. Manipur is in many respects a copy on a small scale of the neighbouring kingdom of Burmah. The settled and comparatively civilised portion of the state consists of a low-lying fertile valley, the inhabitants of which, though now claiming to be Hindus and bound by the strictest rules of caste, are a product of the fusion of the Kuki and Nága tribes who hold the mountains around. The system of administration is of the most primitive description, and its defects have formed a fruitful theme for the disquisitions of a long succession of Political Agents. But, if Manipur is not a very effective defence against Burmah, she at least manages in a rough and imperfect way to preserve the peace over some thousands of square miles of hilly country where we should find it very difficult to make our influence felt, and is thus a means of saving trouble and expense to the British Government. A rather disproportionate share of Mr. Mackenzie's book

is taken up by a Foreign Office *précis* giving the history, in very full detail, of this country from the first Burmese war to the present date.

C. J. LYALL.

Life of Robert Nicoll. By P. R. Drummond. (Alexander Gardner.)

THIS well-intentioned and well-printed volume is to be welcomed for this reason above all others, that, now it is published, there can be no reasonable excuse for another biography of Robert Nicoll. There are already in existence Mrs. Johnstone's Memoir and Mr. Smiles's estimate. And here we have a friend and contemporary, the late Mr. P. R. Drummond, supplementing and, to a certain extent, correcting both, with the help of his own personal knowledge. After all, there is remarkably little story to tell. Nearly everybody who has any acquaintance with British poetry and politics during the last half-century—especially with British poetry as applied to British politics—knows something of the enthusiastic Perthshire lad, who, born in 1814, crowded into his twenty-three years a really wonderful amount of reading, rhyming, and Radicalism. "Unstained and pure," to use Ebenezer Elliott's phrase, Robert Nicoll's life, if it was short and had a pathetic ending, was full of happiness. Mr. Drummond's biography is chiefly, if not solely, valuable, for the details it supplies of Nicoll's doings and sympathies as a grocer's apprentice in Perth, and as a bookseller in Dundee. A very sanguine and warm-hearted lad, fond of books and fond of Liberal ideas, he had no vices and no passions. Mr. Drummond scorns with comic scorn the notion that his hero was a milk-sop. But his ephemeral flirtations were of the most innocent character. Like all the ardent spirits of his time, Nicoll eagerly clutched and partook of the loving-cup of the Enthusiasm of Humanity, then being passed from hand to hand, but he drained no other. Mr. Drummond retells this old narrative of simple purity and political fervour—pushed, perhaps, to extravagance—with great heartiness, and with illustrations drawn from the stores of his memory. But he has unearthed almost nothing that was not known before about Nicoll, certainly nothing more important than that his father was not the "impassive nonentity" he has been described, and that his living while in Perth was somewhat more generous than Mr. Smiles, with his eye for contrasts, has allowed him. Mr. Drummond's work is essentially provincial, as is shown in an amusing manner by his unfavourable comments—full, however, not so much of ill-nature as of Scotch village censoriousness—on Nicoll's wife and her relatives; but it is none the worse for that.

Elliott did Nicoll a great injustice when, in a moment of obituary impulse, he described him as "Scotland's second Burns." In this volume are given pieces which do not appear in any of the collected editions of his works—"The Winds," "Bessie Bell and Mary Gray," "Auld Andrew Gray," "Verses for a Lady's Album," and "The Beggar's Tale"—but none of these comes up to the not very high standard attained in "We are brethren a'" and "Thoughts of Heaven." The best of them is "Auld Andrew Gray," a Scotch character-sketch which is slightly above the

average, and the style of which may be gathered from these lines:—

"The parish richt, frae year to year,
In faith and practice Andrew hauds;
Auld Cloutie's back—puir chield—frae him
Gets in his prayers some fearfu' blauds."

Nicoll, although a good versifier, and although he wrote almost no nonsense, had not a rich poetic gift. He is far behind not only Burns, but Hogg and Tannahill; he is not even the equal of Thom or of Motherwell. But his love of ideas was genuine, and his gift, such as that was, would have helped him in prose writing, which, like the journalistic, is none the worse for being pervaded with enthusiasm. He found his function when he became editor of the *Leeds Times*. His early death is to be lamented, because it cut short the career, not of a second Burns, but of another James Montgomery.

WILLIAM WALLACE.

The Greek Philosophers. By A. W. Benn. (Kegan Paul, Trench, & Co.).

THE greater part of this work first appeared in the form of Review articles, a circumstance which may explain the somewhat summary manner in which its statements and criticisms are often conveyed. But it would be a mistake to allow its manner, which, we think, is in some places regrettable, to blind us to its merits—its brilliancy of style, its great freshness and independence of thought, and its clear recognition of Greek philosophy as part of Greek life. It is true, we think, that Mr. Benn's freshness and independence often take a too paradoxical form; still, for the advanced student who can receive paradoxes the work offers much that is suggestive, although it is perhaps not a very safe guide for the beginner.

To pass the whole of Mr. Benn's comprehensive work in review within the limits of this notice, would be impossible; we can only try to present its general character by referring to certain important points.

In his view of the difference between Plato and Aristotle, Mr. Benn takes up a position which will be new to those who begin and end their reflection upon these authors, with the opinion that the former is an unpractical idealist, and the latter a practically-minded and somewhat prosaic opponent of idealism. "Plato," says Mr. Benn, "was pre-eminently a practical, Aristotle a pre-eminently speculative genius." This is explained to mean that Plato was a social reformer, keenly alive to all the forces, intellectual, moral, religious, and aesthetic, which move human societies towards perfection; Aristotle was an encyclopaedist, interested chiefly in the accumulation and arrangement of knowledge. Plato

"extended the philosophy of mind until it embraced not only ethics and dialectics, but also the study of politics, of religion, of social science, of fine art, of economy, of language, and of education. In other words, he showed how ideas could be applied to life on the most comprehensive scale. . . . He belonged to that nobly practical school of idealists who master all the details of reality before attempting its reformation, and accomplish their great designs by enlisting and reorganising whatever spontaneous forces are already working in the same direction, but the fertility of whose own suggestions it needs more than one millennium to

exhaust. . . . If Aristotle had not his master's enthusiasm for practical reforms, nor his master's command of all the forces by which humanity is raised to a higher life, he had, more even than his master, the Greek passion for knowledge as such apart from its utilitarian applications, and embracing in its vast orb the lowliest things with the loftiest, the most fragmentary glimpses and the largest revelations of truth. . . . Aristotle has discovered and formulated every canon of theoretical consistency, and every artifice of dialectical debate with an industry and acuteness which cannot be too highly extolled; and his labours in this direction have perhaps contributed more than those of any other single writer to the intellectual stimulation of after ages; but the kind of genius requisite for such a task was speculative rather than practical; there was no experience of human nature in its concrete manifestations, no prevision of real consequences involved. Such a code might be, and probably was to a great extent, abstracted from the Platonic dialogues; but to work up the processes of thought into a series of dramatic contests carried on between living individuals, as Plato had done, required a vivid perception and grasp of realities which—and not any poetical mysticism—is what positively distinguishes a Platonist from an Aristotelian."

Here Mr. Benn's general view seems to us to be as correct as it is ably and suggestively urged in these and similar passages; but we think that it misleads him in his estimate of Aristotle's ethical philosophy. "If we consider," says Mr. Benn,

"in what relation the two philosophies stand to ethics, we shall find that to Plato its problems were the most pressing of any, that they haunted him through his whole life, and that he made contributions of extraordinary value towards their solution; while to Aristotle it was merely a branch of natural history, a study of the different types of character to be met with in Greek society, without the faintest perception that conduct required to be set on a wider and firmer basis than the conventional standards of his age."

With this judgment we cannot agree. In the central doctrine of his ethics—the doctrine of *eudaimonia*—Aristotle opposes the conventionalism of all ages, which supposes that a man is happy by reason of what he receives—"in the multitude of his possessions"—with an idealism which holds that his happiness is not what a man receives and possesses, but what he is and does. This element of idealism in Aristotle's ethics Mr. Benn seems to us to have missed; but it is just the presence of this element that makes Aristotle after all "a practical genius." He is a practical genius, not as having suggested new social problems and departures, but as having supplied an impressive regulative principle in his conception of happiness. Happiness to Aristotle is a life which is successful in the sphere of possible attainments only because it is exalted by its effort to realise an unattainable ideal—*ἐφ' ὅσον ἐνδέχεται ἀθανατίζειν*, just as plants and animals, according to their kinds, exist in striving to realise *τὸ θεῖον καὶ τὸ ἀεί*, which as individuals they always fail to reach; or—to exhibit the parallel in another way—as the first principle moves all nature by the attraction of its beauty—*κινεῖ δὲ ὡς ἐρώμενον*, so, in the moral world, *τὸ καλόν*, or the conception of the noble life, draws and guides those who have the theoretic faculty capable of comprehending its magnitude and

order. It is the more strange that Mr. Benn should have failed to recognise this idealistic and even mystical element in Aristotle's ethical philosophy, since an eloquent passage in vol. i., pp. 218, 219, shows that he has not overlooked it in connection with the Aristotelian philosophy of nature. For some reason or other, however, Mr. Benn's usual subtlety and penetration forsake him, as it seems to us, when he estimates Aristotle's ethical philosophy—as, for example, again in the following passage:—

"Take the question which forms the point of junction between Aristotle's ethics and his politics: 'Whether the highest life is a life of thought or a life of action?' Of what importance is his decision to us who attend far more to the social than to the individual consequences of actions; who have learned to take into account the emotional element of happiness which Aristotle neglected; who are uninfluenced by his appeal to the blissful theorising of gods in whom we do not believe; for whom finally experience has altogether broken down the antithesis between knowledge and practice by showing that speculative ideas may revolutionise the whole of life? Aristotle is an interesting historical study, but we are as far beyond him in social as in physical science."

On this we will remark that, although social science now deals with social circumstances widely different from those of Aristotle's time, yet the lesson—*im Ganzen, Guten, Schönen resolut zu leben*—taught in his system can never become antiquated; and as for the "antithesis between knowledge and practice," did Aristotle really maintain it in his ethics? Not only is "practice" formally constituted by *φρόνησις* and sustained by it, but even the *θεωρητικὸς βίος* for man, as it is presented in the *Ethics*, is not a life actually separate from the *πολιτικὸς βίος*—a Nirvana beyond it, but rather its form—a spirit immanent in it, whereby a man detaches himself in some degree from the "matter" of his isolated feelings, and regulates his life "according to the representation of a law." Speculative eminence, unaccompanied by that rational insight into life which implies "all the virtues," is a modern, not an Aristotelian conception. To Aristotle, reason is one, and orders the whole of life. It is the formal aspect of man's concrete life; and if this formal aspect is abstracted, and, as it were, personified in the gods "in whom we do not believe," this is only to make it clearer for the understanding and more impressive for the imagination. As for the emotional element in happiness, Aristotle, so far from neglecting it, tells us that happiness implies pleasure of the highest kind, and that the *τέλος* is *καλόν*, thus being the object of love as well as of intellection; not to mention the fact that *ἀρετή*, the source of the function of happiness, is, as a commentator well describes it, a *μόρφωσις καὶ εἰδοποιήσις τῶν παθημάτων*. Lastly, although it may be true that we "attend far more to the social than to the individual consequences of actions," surely the same is true of Aristotle, to whom the state is "prior to" the individual. On Aristotle as a cultivator of physical science, Mr. Benn's remarks are generally admirable—*e.g.*,

"It might have been expected that, on reaching physiology, the Stagirite would stand on firmer ground than any of his contemporaries. Such,

however, is not the case. . . . His achievements belong entirely to the dominion of anatomy and descriptive zoology. . . . The truth is that, while our philosopher had one of the most powerful intellects ever possessed by any man, it was an intellect strictly limited to the surface of things. . . . Wherever the line between the visible and the invisible is crossed, Aristotle's powers are suddenly paralysed, as if by enchantment."

In his chapter on the spiritualism of Plotinus, Mr. Benn shows himself at his best. Not only are the essential features of a very difficult philosophy conveyed with force and clearness, but the place of that philosophy in the history of culture is skillfully determined. Mr. Benn seems to us to be undoubtedly right when he makes the significance of Plotinus consist in the fact that his spiritualism supplanted once for all the materialism of stoicism and epicurism, and thus cleared the way for the influence of Plato and Aristotle to reassert itself. Taken as a whole this chapter on Plotinus is a brilliant piece of work, and shows what Mr. Benn is capable of. The only fault we have to find with it is that perhaps more might have been made of the strictly ethical side of the philosopher's teaching, and of the influence of that teaching, and of his philosophy generally on subsequent ethics strictly so-called, as seen in such works as the *Eternal and Immutable Morality*, and even in the *Metaphysics of Ethics*. Perhaps we may explain this defect in Mr. Benn's account of Plotinus by what we venture to consider his misunderstanding of Aristotle's ethical system, of which we think he fails to appreciate the idealism. It was from Aristotle's doctrine (suggested doubtless by Plato) of the ethical *καλόν* as the object of the *amor intellectualis* of the *εὐδαιμόνων* that Plotinus directly derived his important doctrine of the identity of *βούλησις* and *νόησις* which reappears in Kant (and substantially before Kant in Cudworth) as the identity of the Good Will and the Practical Reason—of Freedom and Duty. J. A. STEWART.

PERALTA'S COSTA RICA IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

Costa Rica, Nicaragua y Panamá en el siglo XVI.; su historia y sus límites, según los documentos del archivo de Indias de Sevilla, del de Simancas, &c. Recogidos y publicados con notas y aclaraciones históricas y geográficas por Don Manuel M. de Peralta. (Madrid.)

SEÑOR PERALTA has collected, from the archives at Seville and Simancas, a number of valuable historical documents to illustrate the early colonial history of the part of Central America in which he is interested. He has edited his materials with scrupulous care and industry, and has thus performed a valuable literary service.

The report of Juan Vasquez de Coronado on his conquest of Costa Rica is particularly worthy of perusal; for, unlike most of the Spanish acquisitions in America, it was a bloodless conquest. Coronado was, in Señor Peralta's words, "a gifted son of Salamanca by birth and culture," and the humane generosity of his character stands out in grateful relief among his more ignorant and unscrupulous compeers. The work also contains the reports of Gil Gonzalez Davila,

Pedrarías Davila, and Castañeda to the Spanish sovereigns, relating to the discovery and settlement of Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

For English readers the most interesting part of Señor Peralta's work will be the letters he has been the first to bring to light with reference to Sir Francis Drake's voyage of circumnavigation. They will be invaluable to any future biographer of one of the greatest of our naval worthies. The Spanish officials report the proceedings of the redoubtable English pirate, and speculate as to the course he is likely to take when he departs from the west coast of Central America. There is also a letter from the owner of a ship which was taken by Drake, and who was actually on board at the time of the capture. In the English accounts of the voyage it is recorded that on the 6th of April, 1579, the *Golden Hind* met a Spanish vessel laden with linen cloths, silks, and fine China dishes; that the owner was on board, and that Drake took from him a falcon of gold, handsomely wrought, with a large emerald set in the breast. The inference has always been that Drake not only confiscated the cargo, but robbed the owner of his personal property.

After three centuries Señor Peralta has unearthed the account of the incident given by the owner, whose name was Don Francisco de Zarate. His letter places Drake's conduct in a much better light. He took the cargo as that of an enemy, but he did not appropriate private property such as Zarate's "falcon of gold." Drake took a fancy to this toy, and exchanged it for a dagger and a silver chafing dish. Zarate adds, "and I promise your Excellency" (his letter is addressed to the Viceroy of Mexico) "that I lost nothing by the exchange." Drake, indeed, treated the Spaniard with courtesy and consideration, and they had much conversation together. So that Zarate is able to give some interesting particulars as regards the internal economy of the *Golden Hind*, and to throw additional light on the circumstances connected with the execution of Doughty.

Señor Peralta has done very useful service to his own country by bringing so many historical documents to light which record its conquest and settlement; and Englishmen also owe him gratitude for the publication of these Spanish reports on the proceedings of Sir Francis Drake. The letter from the owner of his prize certainly gives a version of Drake's proceedings which shows him to have been more scrupulous than even his partial English biographers had previously suggested.

NEW NOVELS.

Judith Shakespeare: a Romance. By William Black. In 3 vols. (Macmillan.)

The Double Dutchman. By Catherine Childar. In 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

My Friends and I. Edited by Julian Sturgis. (Longmans.)

Mark Desborough's Vow. By Annie S. Swan. (Partridge.)

Molly Carew. An Autobiography. By A. M. W. (Masters.)

A WEEK ago—that is, before we read Mr. William Black's latest story—we should have

unhesitatingly declared that, whatever venial faults he might be guilty of, he could never be betrayed into the deadly literary sin of writing a dull book. Nor will we, even now, say unreservedly that *Judith Shakespeare* is dull, but simply—and this is a sufficiently hard saying—that it reveals hitherto unsuspected possibilities of dullness in one of the brightest and most captivating of contemporary novelists. We have never believed Mr. Black's range to be as narrow as some of his critics seem to have supposed it: the publication of *Sunrise*, with its fine invention and strong handling, was quite sufficient to disprove the calumny that he could write nothing but pretty idylls of the Hebrides; but he has his limitations, and in *Judith Shakespeare* he has for the first time given the world an opportunity of discovering them. There is always a risk run by a writer who, having won fame by imaginative treatment of the life of his own day, endeavours to gain new laurels by revivifying the life of the past; and *Judith Shakespeare* will never, we fear, be classed with such exceptional successes as those achieved by Charles Reade in *The Cloister and the Hearth*, and by Messrs. Besant and Rice in *The Chaplain of the Fleet*. One of the most charming characteristics of Mr. Black's ordinary work is a certain gusto, which carries us along rejoicingly with a sense of pleasant exhilaration like that given by the air of a fresh morning in early autumn. It is this gusto that we miss in *Judith Shakespeare*, and all the author's wonted grace and daintiness of presentation fail to reconcile us to so great a loss. The book reads as if it had been written to order; and (though here we speak without any authority) the suspicion gains some weight from the fact that it was written primarily for readers across the Atlantic, to whom a story of their favourite Stratford in Shakspeare's days could hardly fail to be attractive. It is inevitable that a book which suggests such an hypothesis should be somewhat disappointing. The structure of the story, though very slight, has the clumsiness which generally attends extreme elaboration; several of the most prominent characters have hardly any part in the action; and one of the two personages in whom the interest is centred throughout the first two volumes fades out of the story in a way that seems to us inartistic as well as ignominious. Of Shakspeare himself we see little. The splendid triumph of Lander in his *Examination of Shakspeare* is so far solitary; and in refraining from emulation Mr. Black shows the better part of valour, for the chapters in which Judith's distinguished father appears and speaks satisfy us as they probably would not have satisfied us had they been more ambitiously conceived. On the whole, we must think *Judith Shakespeare* a failure; but we think so only because Mr. Black is the writer of it. He has taught us to expect great things.

We were not long in discovering that the title of *The Double Dutchman* was meant for a joke, and the exceeding thinness and poverty of the witticism did not prepossess us in favour of the book. Fortunately our sad anticipations have not been altogether verified. There are a good many absurdities in *The Double Dutchman*; but it must be admitted that Catharine Childar (this is the

only possible way of grappling with the Mrs. or Miss difficulty), in spite of all her faults, does undoubtedly know the way in which to write a readable and entertaining story, and few readers who begin the book are likely to fail in the grace of what Calvinists call final perseverance. The author is, indeed, almost too generous in the matter of exciting incidents, and gives us in one novel sufficient matter for three. We have a gigantic swindle, an escape from a private lunatic asylum, an elopement, one murder attempted and another murder accomplished; and, as all these delightful things are narrated in a style which has, at least, the merit of briskness the book is lively enough. Here, however, our praise, such as it is, must come to an end. Even liveliness will not atone for grotesque unreality of both character and situation. The author's knowledge of dukes and diamond merchants may very easily be more accurate than ours, but, if it be so, she has certainly not utilised it to the full in her portraits of the Duke of Invercargill and Mr. Van der Bergen. Doubtless, to a duke many things are possible; but so far as we know he is hardly likely to be found playing the part of *ami de la maison* in an essentially vulgar middle-class family, or inviting for a fortnight's shooting an impecunious young clerk who has lost his situation, howsoever estimable the young clerk may happen to be. The wicked Mr. Van der Bergen is from the first even more fantastically incredible. Until we read *The Double Dutchman* we really did think we had seen the last of that old acquaintance of ours, the irredeemable scoundrel who conceals his scoundrelism behind a conversational veil of Scriptural quotation; but in the unctuous diamond merchant we meet him again, and find that since our last meeting he has grown a shade more impossible than ever. With two, or at most three, exceptions of little importance, Blanche Castlewood and her lover, the Hindu prince, are the only personages in the book who are both pleasant and realisable; and even their little love story, which has no relation whatever to the main narrative, is spoiled by the intrusion of an incredible absurdity. We might easily lengthen the indictment indefinitely; but still the curious fact would remain, that in the face of the duke and the diamond merchant, and all the other improbabilities and impossibilities, we must still declare *The Double Dutchman* to be an interesting story.

My Friends and I is one of the cleverest books we have recently read, and indeed our principal, almost our only complaint is that its cleverness is made rather too obtrusive. Mr. Sturgis throws his good things into relief, as it were, instead of allowing us to discover them for ourselves; a trick which irritates us just in the same way that we are irritated by the humorous writer whose want of faith either in himself or in his readers prompts him to put the point of his joke in italics. We say Mr. Sturgis advisedly, for the preface, attributing the three stories of which the book is composed to an unknown literary amateur, is plainly a little bit of mystification so easy to see through that it was hardly worth attempting. The imaginary writer narrates three episodes in his own life, and the cleverness of the book is shown in the way in

which, without any obvious unnaturalness, he is made to exhibit himself to us as one of the meanest and most despicable of men. The portrait is admirably executed, every little detail adding something to the general effect. The second of the stories, "Lord Richard and I," is perhaps the best; for the frank, gentle, large-hearted Lord Richard serves as a splendid foil to the suspicious, narrow-souled, eaves-dropping spy whom he has made his private secretary; and after this exquisite study the concluding story, "My Poor Wife," good though it is, especially at the opening, comes rather as an anti-climax. Mr. Sturgis is clearly a writer who ought to come to the front.

Of the two last works on our list little need be said. They are rather weak goody-goody little tales, one having a mildly Evangelical, the other a still more mildly Anglican flavour. *Mark Desborough's Vow* tells us how a very estimable young man heroically kept a promise he ought never to have made; and most sensible and healthy-minded people will feel inclined to pity Mark's want of moral discernment rather than to praise his misdirected heroism. When the central situation of a book is so strained and unnatural, it is not easy to think how it can be of any real service to the young people for whom it is intended.

The same ethical error—that self-sacrifice is in itself a good and, indeed, noble thing, whatever may be its object—runs through the pages of *Molly Carew*, which is otherwise a quite unobjectionable, refined, and pretty story. Molly herself is a very winning heroine, and her lover Roger is a manly fellow who is refreshingly devoid of that particularly sickening form of priggishness which is the besetting sin of the heroes of edifying fiction. JAMES ASHCROFT NOBLE.

RECENT VERSE.

A Poetry of Exiles. By D. W. B. Sladen. (Griffith & Farran.) The poems in this little volume are distinctly ahead of anything that the author has hitherto published. With as much freshness of subject and as much ardour of feeling as characterised previous productions, they have more variety of theme, and more of the kind of descriptive writing which we want. What Mr. Sladen, as an Australian colonist, can do better than another is to give to Englishmen at home the impressions of an Englishman abroad concerning a new country and strange habits of life. This can hardly be done through the medium of Norwegian legends or by translations from Virgil. When the tailor poet in Kingsley's well-known story begins to exercise his gift of poetry, a practical-minded friend tells him that, if he must write, he will be wise to write about something that he knows. Some of our young poets would be seriously hampered by such advice, and totally silenced by such a necessity as it implies; but Mr. Sladen has the advantage of knowing something. His descriptions of Australian scenery are often vivid, and we trust they are no less faithful than pictorial. The following passage has no worse fault than that touch of symbolism which interferes with the effort of the eye to realise a purely natural scene:—

SUNRISE.

"Hast thou watched sunrise climbing towards the stars
Of early dawn, at first with golden fleece
Flecking low clouds, and as it did increase
Streaking the welkin with great crimson bars

And waving plumes as ruddy dyed as Mars
Over the zenith, while below soft seas
Of beryl, studded with gold isles of peace,
Capped the horizon's rim until the cars
Of the great Sun himself, emerging, threw
A veil of glitter over all they pressed,
And from the fire-tinged clouds the crimson drew,
And lit the firmament from East to West,
Baring the Morn in all her beauty new
To thee as though thou wert the Morn's high priest."

If this were intended for a description of an English sunrise it might be open to a charge of excess, especially from the many who have never seen the sun rise. Mr. Sladen's verses are, as a whole, deficient in rhythm.

Songs after Sunset. By William Staniland. (Elliot Stock.) This volume is dedicated to Tennyson in a sonnet which struggles with enthusiasm and devotion. The principal poem, "The Betrayal," is of the nature of an epic or historical narrative poem treating of the life and death of Judas Iscariot. It is not entirely without vigour and picturesqueness. The character of Christ is delineated with some force, and the morbid introspection of the betrayer is well realised. The subject is a great one, and has been greatly treated by other writers; but the present poem is inadequate. There is considerable dramatic force in a rhymed narrative entitled "The Two Ideals." The author has done wisely in choosing flesh and blood for his themes. He describes himself as a youth, but there is neither dreaminess nor morbidness in his work.

Poems and Fragments. By Charles James. (Paisley: Gardner.) This book contains much writing that is imitative, much that is borrowed, and much that is original, striking, and even powerful. We gather from a prefatory note that the author suffers from ill-health, and perhaps it is due to this circumstance that the echoes of other writers have not been rigorously exterminated. The poems are obviously for the most part fragmentary, and our guess would be that many of the best passages are detached portions of some longer poem. Probably this poem was written in early life, and before the memory—a retentive and well-stored memory—had found time to tabulate its treasures. It will be remembered with what anxiety Edgar Allan Poe traversed his juvenile works in order to get rid of the lines and half lines which had crept into them from other sources. Mr. James is not, so far as we can see, in any fair sense a plagiarist; but ten years hence he will be amazed to find to what extent he has allowed himself to copy the cadences of poets no less familiar than Shakspeare and Wordsworth. As this is a point which concerns the author chiefly, we will content ourselves with indicating pp. 19, 33, 63, and 70 as containing very palpable examples of imitated phrase and rhythm. Mr. James should discipline his memory before publishing again. There is much substance in this volume. The prevailing tone is, perhaps, of a sadness amounting at times to morbidness; but there is strength everywhere, and in certain places the strength amounts to exceptional power. As a whole, the books reminds us of David Gray's posthumous poems. The following is by no means unlike Gray's sonnet "Die Down," &c., in feeling and in style:—

Depart, O Sun! that with a rushing flood
Of glory dost ensanguine all the hills.
I see the happy waters glow like blood,
And wonder at the awful gleam that fills
The earth with splendour, yet, yet still I say:
Sink down! far o'er the waters of the bay,
Behind the gorgeous curtains of the West,
For I am weary of the lagging day,
And sad, and fain would lay me down to rest.
Shine out, ye stars! tho' that the light ye lent
No more on earth shall seem as once to me,—
A star is fallen from the firmament,
A glory faded from the land and sea.

This is the imitative writing of a young man, but of a young man of distinct promise.

Henry, and other Tales. By Francis William Adams. (Elliot Stock.) Some of the "tales" in this volume are mysterious enough, but their mystery is like daylight to the blank darkness of the explanatory introduction which accompanies them. If the "creation," as the author would call his work, may stand to represent what is called the "gloaming," the "criticism" must occupy the place of what Shakspeare finely calls the "dead waste of the night." We shall not attempt to bring our rushlight into such environment, but be content to say that "Henry" is a philosophical personage, embodying a theory and working out an idea. He is a "hero-saviour," though we fear we cannot say in what his heroism consists. Amidst the obscurity of this volume two things are clear beyond contempt of question, namely, the author's morbidness and his egotism. The first lends itself to apostrophes to Death, which would be an offence in their blasphemy if they were not a farce in their extravagance; and the latter exhibits itself in a splendid disposition to correct contemporaries of worth and celebrity, and a noble willingness to "square the universe."

Poems of Modern Thought. By Minot J. Savage. (Williams & Norgate.) These poems were published last year in Boston, U.S., under the title of "Poems;" and the English edition has been rechristened at the suggestion of a critic. We have found a good deal of pleasure in their perusal. That the author is a poet cannot be questioned by those who know what poetry is, and that he has much to say and can say it as well as sing it, is equally apparent. Some of his lines are excellent pictures struck off at a blow. There is felicity, and we think freshness in a line like this—

"The sky is a sieve that the rough wind shakes."
Strength of phrase distinguishes the book, which has picturesqueness and force in equal proportions. A poem called "One Self," is a sweet rendering of an idea suggested by Leigh Hunt in an essay, being the theory that children who die in infancy are immortal as children in the memory of those who lose them. There are some good sonnets on Emerson and Darwin, but perhaps the poem which strikes us most is that entitled "The Shadows." Has the conception been borrowed from David Scott's cartoon of "Man and his Conscience"? Whether or not the idea was an original conception, the poem is fresh and strong:—

"In a bleak land and desolate,
Beyond the earth somewhere,
Went wandering through death's dark gate
A soul into the air.
"And still as on and on it fled,
A wild, waste region through,
Behind there fell the steady tread
Of one that did pursue.
"At last he paused, and looked aback;
And then he was aware
A hideous wretch stood in his track,
Deformed, and cowering there.
"And who art thou," he shrieked in fright,
'That dost my steps pursue?
Go, hide thy shapeless shape from sight,
Nor thus pollute my view!
"The foul form answered him: 'Alway
Along thy path I flee.
I'm thine own actions. Night and day
Still must I follow thee!'"

The Lady of Ranza, and other Poems. By George Eyre. (Paisley: Gardner.) There is smoothness of versification in Mr. Eyre's poems, and there is a general fluency of rhythmic movement. The influence of some well-known living poets is sufficiently apparent, and perhaps the love of alliterative effects is too

liberally indulged. There is not a preponderance of substance, but the note of passion is genuine, and the mood of the poet is healthy, as poetic moods go among young poets. The slighter lyrics are sometimes delicately worded, but lack a body of thought to make them distinctive work. Perhaps the best that we have met with in Mr. Eyre's volume is the poem headed "Till the Sun went down." The following stanza will indicate the style, though the lines suffer somewhat by isolation:—

"The sunlight slept and the millstream ran,
And the miller's daughter was fair to see,
And still she sang 'Nor boy nor man
E'er has been pain of a thought to me !'
And his face beside her was vexed and wan,
And he bade goodbye. 'Goodbye !' laughed she."

The Valley of Idleness. By J. A. Coupland. (E. W. Allen.) It is so frequent an experience to meet with young poets who imitate, and that very slavishly, the living poets of eminence, that to encounter a poetic aspirant whose models belong to a remote period is at once a refreshing thing and something of a surprise. Ten years ago, or less, the imitators of Mr. Swinburne were a legion, and ten years earlier still the followers of the Laureate were not to be numbered. More recently several poets have divided among them the allegiance of the great brotherhood of young bards, and it has been rarely indeed that any member of that fraternity has gone back for inspiration even to Coleridge and Wordsworth, except so far as these two, with Byron, Shelley, Keats, and others, are reflected by the leaders of contemporary poetry. Mr. Coupland, however, goes as far back as Spenser for his model, and in this volume he has imitated not only the allegory of the master, but some of his archaisms. Nor do we think the copy a discreditable one. A poem entitled "Misanthropes" displays imagination; some of the lyrics have the light ring of Spenserian song; and some of the sonnets would remind us of Spenser in their general structure if they had that linking rhyme between the quatrains which the author of the *Fairy Queen* was, we think, the first English sonnet writer to adopt. If the young poets of the generation are not (as we fear is the case with most of them) superior to advice, we would advise them to copy Mr. Coupland in going back to some of the great poets of the past for what Mr. Arnold has called the touchstones.

Allington, and other Poems. By E. Brine. (Swansea: F. Edwards.) Mrs. Brine assigns many reasons for publishing, and quotes a letter from a clergyman who calls upon her to give to the world in an enduring form "lines which breathe not only poetic fire, but principles founded on Gospel truth." Friends, whether clergymen or laymen, who tender advice of this description—involving not only a money interest but also the heart-ache which failure may bring with it, where the aspirations of a beginner are in question—ought to be quite sure that they know what they are about. We cannot say that we see many indications of "poetic fire" in Mrs. Brine's volume, and we are persuaded that if the fire be there it is not calculated to make serious ravages, least of all to endanger the safety of the Thames. If the author has entertained any hopes based on well-meant but scarcely judicious praise, we hope she will not find the realisation of the truth too serious a shock. She is able to write verse, and she has a vein of tender feeling, but we fear she is not an artist, and only in a limited sense is she a poet. Her aims are wholesome, and it will be a matter for gratification if she succeed in her purpose of doing the world some good. We trust the world will not be found too stubborn and stolid to be susceptible to her appeal, but (her clerical friend not-

withstanding) we are more than a little sceptical on that head.

Poems of Feeling. By Alexander Winton Buchan. (Glasgow: Murray.) Burns is the god of Mr. Buchan's idolatry, and the principal poem in this volume, "The Bard," seems to be a rhapsody on the poetic vocation, mission, place and aim in the universe, and on Burns as the embodiment of the ideal poet. The poem exhibits much love of nature, and shows how high the author places the poetic faculty. Mr. Buchan appears to accept Mr. Arnold's theory, propounded in the introductory essay to the *English Poets*, that in a world of shadows poetry is the one reality. The rustic pieces are, in our view, at once more modest in conception and more satisfactory in execution. The dialect is written with skill. A poem entitled "Nancy" is a sweet and simple rendering of the old story of infidelity and the consequent penalty of desertion. There is merit in the following:—

"The lady look'd upo' the deep,
Whaur her true lover lay;
The angry win' was music sweet,
And she lo'ed the dashing spray;
And aye sae lanely's she did sing,
And cry sae bitterlie,
I e'en maun to my bridal-bed,
Though it be in the sea."

"'Tis fause, 'tis fause, that I should weep
In bower and stately ha',
And my ain lord sae soun'ly sleep
Whaur loud the tempests blaw.
Whaur the seaweed lang and the coral red,
And the gems o' the ocean be—
I e'en maun to my bridal-bed,
Though it be in the sea."

Echoes of Life. By Mrs. Frank Snoad. (Chapman & Hall.) We have read these poems with a good deal of pleasure. They are bright, light, musical, full of a kind of poetic feeling and eminent in a sunny sort of womanliness. We hardly know if it would be possible to describe them more exactly than to say that they are Mr. Frederick Locker's poetry coming through a female mind and touched with womanly feeling. We might also say of Mrs. Frank Snoad's poetry what Thackeray is reported to have said of Mr. Locker's, "It may sometimes be small beer, but it comes from the right tap." We have read nothing recently that has been sweeter and more unaffected in their own way than such little lyrics and sketches as "Chippendale Chairs," "Curly Locks," "Thirty," and "A Shop Hand." We are quite prepared to find that the author undervalues these slighter poems in comparison with such larger efforts as "Clare Peyco's Diary," but they are by far the more likely to arrest attention and enlist sympathy. Mrs. Frank Snoad writes with even more direct "subjectivity," as it is termed, than we are accustomed to find among writers of verse; but unlike the young men whose poetry would convey an idea that the whole world is a lazaretto, she is never quite so agreeable as when talking about herself. The narrative poems are interesting and show some ingenuity in invention. We trust that when we quote the following cynical gird at criticism in all charity and even in all thankfulness for the disciplinary chastisement, the author will be satisfied that critics are not entirely such a bitterly and remorselessly cruel and wicked race as she has been led to expect:—

"Vain sounding brass, which a fool has struck,
And deem'd a cauldron the wide world's gong,
No wealthy patron, no stroke of luck,
Could save that clamour and din for long.
So said the critics—and who but they
Could gauge the worth of this new-fledged bard?
Dip deep in gall, and then write away,
That task is easy, if praise is hard !"

"A tinkling jangle of puny bells,
The veriest toy that the world has seen !
A feeble tune that its weakness tells,
Go, slit the skin of the tambourine !
So said the critics—and who but they
Should know pure weakness from unborn strength ?

Light up the squibs and then burn away,
A bonfire's faggots will yield at length !

"Time passes by with his scythe and glass,
And slowly, slowly, he pours its sands;
Till rising, swelling, the sweet sounds pass
And echo answers from distant lands.
The sounding brass sounds its deep amen.
The tinkling bells sigh their sweet refrain,
Men ask, 'The Critics? Where are they then ?
But Time smiles only—men ask in vain.'"

The Pearl of Anjou, and other Poems. By Edmond Walters. (Alexander & Shephard.) This prettily printed volume consists of poems chiefly devotional. The longest piece is a sort of metrical biography of Martin Luther, conceived from the point of view of an ardent Rector of the Church of England. It has the merit of bringing into relief some of the more picturesque passages in the life of the great reformer. As poetry it is not remarkable. The few love poems in this volume are somewhat wanting in the note of passion. They give hint of a demure and circumspect type of courtship. The cleverest poem is an imitation of the tenth satire of Juvenal, and that is stated to have been written by a paternal ancestor of the author. Perhaps the only attempt at metrical effects—that is to say, the only poem in which the manner is intended to be of more consequence than the matter—is in the following variation on a burden to which poets great and small since Goethe have sung with varying success:—

"Far away in the land where the myrtle and vine,
Tall cedar, and cypress their shadows entwine;
Where the note of the dove is heard in the vale,
And odour of citron is borne on the gale;
I hushed me to sleep by the murmuring sea,
That was telling the tale of her trouble to me."

NOTES AND NEWS.

LORD TENNYSON'S new poem is, we hear, a drama with Thomas à Becket for its subject.

PROF. FREEMAN intends to give his inaugural lecture at Oxford on Wednesday, October 15.

AN English newspaper recently said—and the statement was eagerly taken up in America—that we had no "short stories." The reproach was exaggerated, if not unjust, as will be shown by a volume to be published shortly by Messrs. Chatto & Windus, under the title of *Nightmares*. This is a collection of stories that have already appeared in various magazines, some with the pseudonym of "J. Arbuthnot Wilson," others anonymously. The name of Mr. Grant Allen will now appear on the title-page.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN announce *The Cruise of H.M.S. "Bacchante," 1879-82*, compiled from the Journals, Letters, and Note-Books of Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales. The book, which will be in two volumes, with maps, plans, and illustrations, has been edited by the Rev. John Neale Dalton, the tutor of the two princes during their voyage.

EARLY next year Mr. Quaritch will issue to subscribers Messrs. Herbert Jones's work entitled *The Princess Charlotte of Wales*, an illustrated monograph, which will contain reproductions in monochrome of a series of miniatures of the Princess from her cradle to her grave, painted from life by Charlotte Jones. The book will also comprise a memoir of the Princess, and selections from her letters.

MR. A. J. BUTLER, Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, will publish early in November

his work on *The Ancient Coptic Churches of Egypt*. It will consist of two volumes demy octavo, the first volume being mainly architectural, the second treating of church furniture, vestments, rites, and ceremonies. The work will be issued at the Clarendon Press, and will be fully illustrated.

As Mr. Browning's new volume, *Ferishtah's Fancies*, is more serious than his last, *Jocoseria*, he has put at the back of his half-title a sentence of Jeremy Collier's on Shakspeare:—

"His Genius was jocular, but when disposed he could be very serious; and did so excel both in Tragedies and Comedies that he was able to make Heracitus laugh and Democritus weep."—*Hist. Diet.*, 1701, vol. ii.

Another extract has reference to the country of the sage to whom the "Fancies" are attributed—to say nothing of the critics thereof:—

"You, sir, I entertain for one of my hundred; only I do not like the fashion of your garments. You will say they are Persian attire; but let them be changed."—*Lear* III. vi. 76-9.

VERNON LEE is now correcting for the press the proofs of her aesthetic romance, *Miss Brown*, which will be published shortly by Messrs. Blackwood. She has also revised a new edition of *Euphonia*, to appear in a cheaper form.

Flat Land is the name of a little book about to be published by Messrs. Seeley, by an author whose well-known name will on this occasion be changed for that of A. Square. Flat Land is a region where but two dimensions in length and breadth are known; and the story tells how one of its inhabitants visits Space Land, where the residents rejoice in a knowledge of a third dimension, viz., height. On the return of the traveller, he endeavours, without any success, to make his compatriots form a conception of this third dimension. This is an allegory of many an obvious application.

MR. JAMES INNES MINCHIN has written a verse translation of Dante's *Divina Commedia* in the *terza rima* of the original, which will be published early in the present season.

SOME two or three years ago Mr. J. W. Mackail, Fellow of Balliol, printed for private circulation a translation in prose of the first book of the *Aeneid*. He has now completed his translation of the whole, which will be published shortly by Messrs. Macmillan. We believe that Mr. Mackail is also engaged on an English version of Herodotus, in collaboration with Mr. Andrew Lang.

AN important contribution to the extensive *Schiller-Literatur* has just been added by the publication of Ueberweg's posthumous work entitled *Schiller als Historiker und Philosoph*.

The Other Half: a volume of stories from modern life founded on the adage that one-half the world is unknown to the other half, by Dr. Alexander, is announced by Mr. Elliot Stock.

MESSRS. W. SWAN SONNENSCHNEIN & Co. will shortly publish a pamphlet giving an account of Mr. Bradlaugh's struggle with the House of Commons from the point of view of a Hindu.

AT the various times of publication of their shilling vellum-parchment series, Messrs. Field & Tuer had six copies only of each book printed on fine vellum. Some of these sets are still for sale.

WE are informed that Messrs. Geo. Bell & Sons are about to publish, on November 1, a volume of original poems by Mr. Waddington, entitled *Sonnets and other Verse*.

TWO new volumes are to be added to the convenient series of guide-books known as "Dickens's Dictionaries." They will be dictionaries of Oxford and of Cambridge.

COLERIDGE'S *Poems*, in two volumes, will shortly be added to the "Aldine Poets" published by Messrs. George Bell & Sons. They have been edited by Mr. T. Ashe, to whom we were recently indebted for a most thorough edition of Coleridge's *Lectures on Shakspeare*.

MR. JAMES WADE has in the press a work by Mr. Bird on *Modern Chess*, to be published in parts at one shilling each. We are assured that it will be worthy of the reputation of the English master.

THE same publisher will also issue in the course of the present month a second edition of *Games of the London Chess Tournament*, with an analytical index of openings by Mr. Bird.

CAPT. J. BUCHAN TELFER has completed a biography of that most singular personage of the last century, the Chevalier d'Eon. The work will be published by Messrs. Longmans & Co.

A CHEAP edition of Mr. Hall Caine's *Cobwebs of Criticism* is announced by Mr. Elliot Stock for early publication.

WE learn that the greater part of the first edition of fifteen thousand copies, now at press, of *John Bull's Womanhood* is already bespoken.

Tree Gossip is the title of a new book by Mr. Francis George Heath to be published shortly at the Leadenhall Press.

MR. JOHN MURRAY, of Albemarle Street, will publish very shortly a *Centennial Biography of Sir Moses Montefiore*, by Mr. Lucien Wolf. Arrangements have been made with Messrs. Harper Bros. to issue an edition simultaneously in New York. The work will consist of 350 pages crown octavo, and contain a portrait of Sir Moses Montefiore specially engraved from the photograph taken a few months back by Mr. J. E. Mayall.

MESSRS. RIVINGTON have nearly ready for publication the Bampton Lectures delivered last year by Canon Fremantle, entitled *The World as the Subject of Redemption*; also *Letters of the Rev. J. B. Mozley, D.D.*, late Canon of Christ Church, and Regius Professor at Oxford; *Footprints of the Son of Man*, as traced by St. Mark, being eighty portions for private study, family reading, and instruction in Church, by Canon Luckock; a treatise on the *Profitableness of the Old Testament Scriptures*, by the Rev. W. A. Bartlett; *The Holy Gospels*, according to the Authorized Version, with variations of type in the use of capital letters, by the Rev. E. T. Carsdale; *Maxims for Daily Life*, from the writings of the Rev. Canon Carter; *Life of St. Francis of Assisi*, by Mrs. H. L. Sidney Lear; *Modern Doubt and Unbelief*, its Extent, Causes, and Tendencies, by the Rev. E. Bickersteth Ottley; *The Limits of Individual Liberty*, by Mr. F. C. Montague; *Monte Carlo and Public Opinion*, by a visitor to the Riviera; and *The Apostolic Fathers*, translated into English, by the Rev. C. H. Hoole.

AMONG educational works, Messrs. Rivington are about to publish Mr. R. F. Horton's *History of the Romans*, for the use of middle forms of schools; *A Collection of Arithmetical Exercises*, by Messrs. A. E. Donkin and C. H. Hodges; an easy Latin elegiac verse book, entitled *Versiculi*, by the Rev. J. H. Raven; *Fabulae Faciles*, a first Latin reader, consisting of detached sentences as well as consecutive stories, by Mr. Frank Ritchie; Mr. G. L. Bennett's *Viri Illustres Urbis Romae*, an elementary Latin reading book, extracted and adapted from Quintus Curtius; *Bacon's Essays*, complete edition, edited by Mr. Francis Storr; forming a volume of the "English School Classics"; *Letters of Cicero*, selected and edited by Prof. J. H. Muirhead; *An Elementary Greek Syntax*, for the use of schools, by Mr. F. E. Thompson; and Mr. H. O. Wakeman's

sketch of the *History of Religion in England*, forming a volume of the series "Highways of History," edited by Mrs. Creighton.

MESSRS. TRÜBNER will shortly issue in the English and Foreign Philosophical Library Dr. Friedlander's translation of the *Guide of the Perplexed*, by Maimonides, in three volumes. The first volume was originally issued some time back by the now defunct Society of Hebrew Literature. The *Life and Works of Giordano Bruno*, and the third volume of Schopenhauer's *The World as Will and Idea*, translated by R. B. Haldane and John Kemp, forming part of the same series, are announced to appear early in 1885.

MESSRS. JOHN F. SHAW & Co. announce *The Lord Mayor of London: a Tale of London* in 1384, by Emily S. Holt; *Graham McCall's Victory: a Tale of the Covenanters*, by Grace Stebbing; *Estella*; or, *Who is my Neighbour?* by Lady Hope; *Just as it ought to be*; or, *the Story of Miss Prudence*, by J. M. Conklin; *Loveday's History: a Story of Many Changes*, by L. E. Guernsey, author of *Winifred*; *The Lord of the Marches: the Story of Roger de Mortimer*, by Emily S. Holt; *Fathoms Deep*, by Catherine Shaw; *Norman and Elsie*; or, *Two Little Prisoners*, by Emily Brodie; *King's Scholars*; or, *Work and Play at Easthaven*, by M. L. Ridley; and two books for little children—*Tom Tit: His Saying and Doings*, by Ismay Thorn, and *Other Lives than Ours*, by Mrs. Stanley Leathes, both illustrated by M. Irwin.

MESSRS. W. SWAN SONNENSCHNEIN & Co.'s announcements include the following novels:—*Royal Favour*, by Miss A. S. C. Wallis; *At Home in the Transvaal*, by Mrs. Carey Hobson; *For his Friend*, by Miss Abby Williams; *Cassandra*, by Mrs. George Corbett; *Cypress Beach*, by Mr. W. H. Babcock.

THE same publishers also announce *From Paris to Peking over Siberian Snows*, by Messrs. Meignan and Conn; *The Autobiography of the late Lady Lytton*, edited by Miss Louisa Devey; a "People's Edition" of Prof. Thorold Rogers' work on the *History of Wages and Prices*, consisting of a portion only of the larger book, which is itself to appear in a second edition; *A History of the War between Germany and France, 1870-1871*, by Mr. Elihu Rich; *The Supreme Power*, by Rev. John Wilson; an English Prose Version of *Reynard the Fox*, with Kaulbach's illustrations; *The Best Books: a Classified Bibliography of the best Current Literature*, with the publishers' names and prices of each work and the dates of first and current editions; *A History of Pianoforte Music*, by Mr. J. C. Fillmore, edited by Mr. Ridley Prentice; translations of the *Letters* and of the *Journal of Eugénie de Guérin*, by Mr. Trebutien; *Studies in Irish Folk-lore*, by Mr. David Fitzgerald; *Portuguese Folk-lore*, by Miss Monteiro; a new edition of Mr. Theal's *Kaffir Folk-lore: A Book of Golden Friendships*, by Miss F. L. Clarke; also some educational and juvenile works, and several new editions.

THE first volume of Mr. Justin McCarthy's *History of the Four Georges*, extending to the year 1733, is on the eve of publication by Messrs. Chatto & Windus. The work is to be completed in four volumes, uniform with the library edition of the same author's *History of Our Own Times*.

THE same publishers' announcements for the coming season comprise Mr. Henry J. Jennings' *Biography of Lord Tennyson*, with a photograph-portrait; the *Complete Poetical Works of Mr. Robert Buchanan*, revised by the author, with a portrait on steel; a collection of *Yarns and Sea Descriptions*, by Mr. W. Clark Russell, to be entitled *On the Fo'k'sle Head*; *Women of the Day: a Dictionary of Contem-*

poraries, by Mr. Francis Hays; *Our Common British Fossils and Where to Find Them*: a popular Geological Manual, by Dr. Taylor, with numerous illustrations; *The Universe of Suns and other Science Gleanings*, by Mr. R. A. Proctor; *The Chemistry of Cookery*, by Mr. W. Mattieu Williams; and *Aids to Long Life*, by Dr. Davies.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS have nearly ready an edition of Scott's *Marmion*, illustrated with over one hundred drawings on wood; an English edition, uniform with "Mark Twain's" works, of the new book of American humour, *On a Mexican Mustang through Texas*, by Sweet and Knox; Miss Gordon Cumming's new book of travel, *In the Himalayas and on the Indian Plains*; Mr. James Payn's illustrated book for boys, *In Peril and Privation*; Sheridan's comedies, "The Rivals" and "The School for Scandal," edited with notes and biographical sketch by the American critic, Mr. Brander Matthews, with decorative vignettes and ten full-page illustrations.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS also announce for immediate publication Mr. Swinburne's new volume, *A Midsummer Holiday, and other Poems*; Mr. Julian Hawthorne's biography of Nathaniel Hawthorne and his Wife, in two volumes, with six portraits on steel; the English copyright edition of "Mark Twain's" *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (the comrade of "Tom Sawyer"), with 174 illustrations.

In fiction the same publishers have in preparation Mr. Wilkie Collins' *I Say No*; Mrs. Cashel Hoey's *The Lover's Creed*; Mr. Charles Gibbon's *By Mead and Stream*; *The Wearing of the Green*, by "Basil"; *Mercy Holland, and other Stories*, by Mr. Julian Hawthorne; and *Philistia*, by "Cecil Power." Charles Reade's *The Jilt, and other Stories, and Good Stories of Man and other Animals* will both be added to the collected edition of Charles Reade's works.

SECRETARIES and other members of Shakespeare Societies, where the plays are read in parts, will find in course of publication in *Shakespeareana* a very useful series of reading tables showing at a glance the scenes in which the characters speak and the number of lines spoken by each of them.

In the current week's issue of *St. Stephen's Review* will be commenced a new novel by "Blinkhoolie," entitled "A Tory Lordling."

The *Little Folks' Annual* for 1885 will be published at the end of October under the title "A Shipful of Children, and their Merry Adventures." Among the contributors are G. Manville Fenn, Henry Frith, Julia Goddard, Robert Richardson, David Ker, &c.; and about forty original illustrations have been drawn for it by Harry Furniss, Hal Ludlow, Lizzie Lawson, C. Gregory, Gordon Browne, and other artists.

A NEW annual, entitled *The Holyrood Annual*, edited by the author of *Angus Graeme, Game-keeper*, will appear before Christmas. One interesting contribution has been promised: an account, by an eye-witness, of the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, which was lately found in MS. among the papers of a Scottish judge of the eighteenth century.

A STUDY of Schopenhauer's *The World as Will and Idea* will form a leading feature in the Aristotelian Society's programme for the sixth session, which commences on Monday, October 20. There will be an address by the president, Mr. Shadworth H. Hodgson, at the opening meeting; and several evenings will be devoted to the discussion of original papers.

DURING the coming season Prof. Buchheim will read and interpret Goethe's *Faust* in the

evening classes of King's College for gentlemen, and will give readings from and lectures on the same work in the Ladies' Department of King's College, at Observatory Avenue.

A COURSE of ten lectures on "Mental Evolution" will be delivered by Mr. S. B. J. Skerchly at the South Place Institute, Finsbury, on successive Wednesday evenings. The first lecture, on "Life and Habit," is to be given on October 15. Early in 1885 Mr. J. Allanson Picton will give a course of lectures at the same institution, on "The Conflict of Oligarchy and Democracy."

IN connection with the University Extension Scheme in Northumberland, Miss Gladstone, the daughter of the premier, has given £10 to be awarded to a working miner approved by the lecturers, in order to defray the expenses of one month's residence at Cambridge. A similar sum has been promised by the proprietors of a Newcastle paper, the *Northern Leader*, and further subscriptions are expected. It is impossible not to be reminded of a famous scene in *Alton Locke*.

THE scholarships offered by the Council of Newnham College for success in the Cambridge Higher Local Examination, held in June last, have been awarded as follows:—The Goldsmiths' Scholarship to Miss Ashford, Bromsgrove; the Clothworkers' Scholarship to Miss Bishop, Newnham College; the Drapers' Scholarship to Miss Gardiner, Newnham College; the Cobden Scholarship to Miss Earp, Newnham College; the scholarship given by a private donor, for success in Greek, to Miss Pocock, Newnham College. Scholarships have also been awarded to Miss Powell, Bisham; Miss Raleigh, Newnham College; Miss Brown, Plymouth High School; Miss Poulton, Truro High School; Miss Helen Atkinson, Cambridge; Miss Moore, University College, Bristol; and Miss Flavell, Birmingham.

ON Saturday last, Mrs. Bryant, D.Sc., was presented with her doctor's hood and gown by friends and pupils at the North London Collegiate School for Girls. Mrs. Bryant is, it will be remembered, the first woman who has taken the degree of doctor in mental and moral science at London University.

M. HENRIK IBSEN, the Norwegian poet, has just finished a new five-act play, *Vildanden* (The Wild Duck), which will be published at the end of this month. It is said to be the most pungent contribution to the controversy of the burning questions of the day which hitherto has proceeded from the pen of this poet.

GREAT preparations are being made in Denmark and Norway to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of Ludvig Holberg, the father of the Danish stage, on December 3. Holberg was born in Bergen, in Norway, where a statue of him will be unveiled on his birthday. He settled down, however, in Copenhagen, where he studied and took his degree. He was a poet, dramatist, historian, and philosopher. A splendid *édition de luxe* of his comedies will be published by M. Bojesen, of Copenhagen, with illustrations by the Danish artist, Mr. Hans Tegner. New editions of some of his other popular works will also be published for the occasion. Poets and composers are in the meantime busily engaged upon writing and singing his praise.

TOWARDS the end of last month M. Alexandre Dumas was elected *directeur* of the Académie française for the current quarter. But as he has declined the honour, M. Gaston Boissier has been chosen in his stead; and it will accordingly fall to M. Boissier to deliver the discourse at the bicentenary of Corneille on October 12.

THE same day, October 12, will also be cele-

brated at Valenciennes as the bicentenary of Watteau, though in this case it is the anniversary of his birth, not of his death. A statue of him by Carpeau is to be unveiled.

IN connexion with the bicentenary of Corneille M. Victorien Sardou claims to have discovered the original door of the house in which Corneille lived when, in conjunction with Molière, he wrote "Psyche." He has presented it to the Comédie française, who have resolved to enlarge their existing doorway in order to utilise the present.

PROF. P. MANSION, of Ghent, writes to us in reference to the *E pur si muove* of Galileo, stating that Drs. Heis and Delgeur have found this story in a work entitled *Querelles littéraires, ou Mémoires pour servir à l'Histoire de la République des Lettres depuis Homère jusqu'à nos Jours* (Paris, 1761). Prof. Mansion quotes from this book the passage relating to the incident, the words being nearly identical with those given by our correspondent, Mr. Schultmann (ACADEMY, September 27, 1884), from the *Lehrbuch der Philosophischen Geschichte* published thirteen years later.

SCOTCH JOTTINGS.

AN effort is being made at Edinburgh to establish a Scottish Geographical Society, the objects of which will be to popularise and encourage the study of geography in Scotland, to lend assistance in the foundation of new British settlements throughout the world, to raise the standard of cartography by encouraging the production of the best maps, and to form a geographical library and a collection of maps. It is also intended that the society shall publish a monthly magazine, which is to be a complete summary of all the geographical news of the day, collected from all sources, British and foreign. It is stated that Mr. H. M. Stanley has promised to "inaugurate" the new society about the beginning of next month.

LADY HOPE GRANT has presented to the Museum of Science and Art at Edinburgh the gold jug or ewer which was given to her husband by the officers of the British army in China in 1860. It was purchased by them out of the "loot" of the Summer Palace at Peking. It is of solid gold, and stands twelve and a-half inches high. The bullion value is estimated at nearly £300. The decoration is boldly wrought, and curiously varied.

THE same Museum has recently acquired by purchase a collection of rubbings of English monumental brasses, about five hundred in number, which was formed by the late Miss Anne Newell Hill, of Southampton.

MR. GLADSTONE has sanctioned a grant of £50 out of the Royal Bounty Fund towards a testimonial that is being raised in Edinburgh on behalf of Mr. James Gould, author of *The Burns Centenary Collection of 1859*, and other works.

THE Queen has given a subscription of £25 to the marine station for scientific research at Granton, on the Firth of Forth.

THE new number of the *Scottish Review* will contain, among other papers, articles on "The Teaching of Archdeacon Farrar," "The Battle of Otterburn," and "The De Imitatione—who wrote it?"

MR. JAMES D. BROWN, of Glasgow, is preparing a work entitled *The Dictionary of Scotland*: Historical, Biographical, Topographical, and Statistical, which is intended to contain information on every subject and event connected with Scotland. Suggestions and assistance will be welcomed, and should be addressed

to the Editor, care of Mr. Alex. Gardner, Publisher, Paisley.

MESSRS. WILSON & McCORMICK, of Glasgow, announce for immediate publication *Walt Whitman*, by Dr. R. M. Bucke, with "English Critics on Walt Whitman," edited by Prof. Edward Dowden. The same publishers have in the press *Diabolus Amans*, a dramatic poem by a new writer; *Geology and the Deluge*, by the Duke of Argyll; *Annals of Blantyre*, by the Rev. Stewart Wright; and a new edition of *Martha Spreull*: being Chapters in the Life of a Single Wumman.

AMERICAN JOTTINGS.

THE American announcements of forthcoming books are scarcely so interesting as usual, which may perhaps be attributed to the political distraction caused by the presidential contest. Not a few of them are announced to be published also in this country; but in compiling the following list we have not been careful to avoid repetition:—

MESSRS. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN, & Co., of Boston, seem to take the lead. In their series of "American Men of Letters" they promise *Emerson*, by Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, and *Poe*, by Mr. G. C. Woodberry, who is said to have had the advantage of much new material, notably several letters from Poe to Mr. Lowell. Their other announcements include a new volume of essays by Mr. Burroughs, entitled *Fresh Fields*, a title that appears to embody the familiar misquotation from "Lycidas"; a new edition of Fenimore Cooper's *Sea Tales*; a selection from the Poems of Dr. O. W. Holmes, formed by himself and illustrated by about a dozen American artists; *The Algonquin Legends of New England*, by Mr. Charles G. Leland; and Mr. Elihu Vedder's fifty drawings illustrating the *Rubaiyat* of Omar Khayyám.

MESSRS. OSGOOD, also of Boston, are the American publishers of Mr. Brander Matthews' edition of *Sheridan's Rivals* and *School for Scandal*, which will have a brief biography, a critical introduction, and copious notes. The illustrations include an etching by M. Richeton after the picture in the National Portrait Gallery, and some eight drawings of modern actors in the characters of the two plays. There will also be a facsimile of a letter of Sheridan referring to his taking of the house in Savile Row, now commemorated by a plate, and a reproduction of the frontispiece to the first edition of *The School for Scandal* published at Dublin.

THE same publishers announce *Tales of Three Cities*, by Mr. Henry James; *A Sea Change*; or, *Love's Stowaway*, a comic opera, by Mr. W. D. Howells; Mr. Julian Hawthorne's biography of his father and mother; *Dr. Sevier*, a novel by Mr. G. W. Cable; and the lectures on Emerson given this summer at the Concord School of Philosophy. Mr. Henry James has written a novel, called *Princess Casamassima*, which will be published first in the *Atlantic Monthly*.

It is noteworthy that one New York publisher announces an illustrated edition of George Eliot's Poems, and another "O may I join the Choir Invisible" in a volume by itself, also with illustrations.

A NEW novel by Miss Woolson, entitled "East Angels" will be begun in the January number of *Harper's Magazine*. To the Christmas number of *Harper's* Mr. W. Black will contribute a description of his drive on Mr. Carnegie's coach into the West of England, when Mr. Matthew Arnold formed one of the party.

A LITTLE while ago we stated that Mr. Albert

R. Frey, of the Astor Library, New York, was engaged on a dictionary of literary pseudonyms. By the last mail we hear that Mr. W. M. Griswold, of the Library of Congress, and Mr. W. Cushing, late librarian of Harvard, are both engaged upon very similar enterprises. Mr. Griswold, however, proposes to limit himself to an index of pseudonyms, while Mr. Cushing intends to give initials as well as pseudonyms.

At the meeting of the Social Science Association at Saratoga last month, it was resolved to found an historical association to promote the study not only of American history, but of history in America. Forty-one members were enrolled forthwith, with the following as officers:—President, Andrew D. White, of Cornell; vice-presidents, Justin Winsor, of Harvard, and C. K. Adams, of Michigan; secretary, H. B. Adams, of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

THE Critic for September 27 has a paper by Walt Whitman headed "What lurks behind Shakspeare's historical plays?"

ORIGINAL VERSE.

MAN OCTIPARTITE.

From the Middle-Irish. Cod. Clarend. (Mus. Brit.), vol. xv., fol. 7^a, col. 1.

THUS sang the sages of the Gael
A thousand years ago well-nigh:
"Hearken how the Lord on high
Wrought man, to breathe and laugh and wail,
To hunt and war, to plough and sail,
To love and teach, to pray and die!"

Then said the sages of the Gael:
"Of parcels eight was Adam built.
The first was earth, the second sea,
The third and fourth were sun and cloud,
The fifth was wind, the sixth was stone,
The seventh was the Holy Ghost,
The last was Light which lighteth God."

Then sang the sages of the Gael:
"Man's body, first, was built of earth
To lodge a living soul from birth,
And earthward home again to go
When Time and Death have spoken so.
Then of the sea his blood was dight
To bound in love and flow in fight.
Next, of the sun, to see the skies,
His face was framed with shining eyes.
From hurrying hosts of cloud was wrought
His roaming, rapid-changeable thought.
Then of the wind was made his breath
To come and go from birth to death.
And then of earth-sustaining stone
Was built his flesh-upholding bone.
The Holy Ghost, like soaring flame,
The substance of his soul became.
Of Light which lighteth God was made
Man's conscience, so that unafraid
His soul through haunts of night and sin
May pass and keep all clean within.

Now, if the earthiness redound,
He lags through life a slothful hound.
But, if it be the sea that sways,
In wild unrest he wastes his days.
Whene'er the sun is sovran, there
The heart is light, the face is fair.
If clouds prevail, he lives in dreams
A deedless life of gloom and gleams;
And when the wind has won command
His word is harder than his hand.
If stone bear rule, he masters men,
And ruthless is their ransom then.
The Holy Ghost, if He prevail,
Man lives, exempt from lasting bale,
And, gazing with the eyes of God,
Of all he sees at home, abroad,
Discerns the inmost heart and then
Reveals it to his fellow-men,
And they are truer, gentler, more
Heroic than they were before.

But he on whom the Light Divine
Is lavished bears the sacred sign,
And men draw nigh in field or mart
To hear the wisdom of his heart.
For he is calm and clear of face,
And unperplexed he runs his race,
Because his mind is always bent
On Right, regardless of event.

Of each of those eight things decreed
To make and mould the human breed
Let more or less in man and man
Be set as God has framed his plan.
But still there is a ninth in store
(God grant it now and evermore!)—
Our Freedom, wanting which, we read,
The bulk of earth, the strength of stone,
The bounding life of the sea, the speed
Of clouds, the splendour of the sun,
The never-flagging flight of wind,
The fervor of the Holy Ghost,
The Light before the angels' host,
Though all be in our frame combined,
Grow tainted, yea, of no avail."

So sang the sages of the Gael.

WHITLEY STOKES.

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

IN *Macmillan's Magazine* Mr. J. Cotter Morison writes a striking article in memory of "Mark Pattison." His view of the late Rector of Lincoln is that "a life devoted to learning in a century given over to practice, and in a university consecrated to cram, was original to the verge of eccentricity." This will be a hard saying in modern Oxford; but those who knew Oxford and Mark Pattison will admit its truth with some feelings of shame. A paper on "Steam, the Tyrant," is interesting through its suggestion that the development of electricity may redress the social wrongs that have been wrought by steam, and may again give independent and individual labour a means of competing with the associated labour which steam power has created. Mr. J. T. Bent gives a pleasant account of a visit to Syria, the capital of the Cyclades. A dialogue of H. D. T., on "Newspapers and English," reproduces cleverly much that has often been said about the style of newspaper writing. Its only novelty is a suggestion that the faults in question are symptoms of a coming change in our language, dependent on other causes.

IN *Blackwood's Magazine* a paper on "Shakspeare's *Rosalind*," by Lady Martin, is the only thing that breaks the monotony of political invective repeated in various strains throughout the pages. Lady Martin writes in the form of a letter to Mr. Browning; and, if her criticisms are not very profound, they have a personal interest, and show how the points of "As You Like It" struck one who undertook their interpretation.

THE *Antiquary* for October is a remarkably dull number, but it would be unfair to disparage several of the articles, which contain evidence of much genuine work. Mr. C. Staniland Wake's second article on the Nevills of Raby will be of great interest to genealogists, but except for purposes of reference must be pronounced unreadable. "The Numerical Principles of Ancient Gothic Art," by Mr. Clapton Rolfe, we know not how to characterise. It is either a truism or the defence of an utterly mistaken theory. Mr. W. Carew Hazlitt continues his extracts from the note-books which record the American experiences of his ancestors. Though not so interesting as his former paper on the same subject, we welcome it gladly. The anonymous papers on the birthplace of Swift and the old forest laws are among the weakest things we have yet seen in the *Antiquary's* pages.

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

- BOISGONNET, F. du. *Le Billet rouge*. Paris: Boulanger. 3 fr. 50 c.
 DEHIO, G. u. G. v. BEZOLD. *Die kirchliche Baukunst d. Abendländes. Historisch u. systematisch dargestellt*. Stuttgart: Cotta. 25 M.
 GAMBETTA, Discours et Plaidoyers politiques de. T. X. Paris: Charpentier. 7 fr. 50 c.
 MANHEIMER, E. *Du Cap au Zambéze. Notes de voyage dans l'Afrique du Sud*. Geneva. 12 fr.
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CORRESPONDENCE.

AUTOTYPES.

London: Oct. 8, 1884.

In the first article on "The Palaeographical Publications of the last Twenty-five Years," by Mr. J. H. Hessels, printed in the ACADEMY of September 20, Mr. Hessels designates as "Autotypes" the works he has under review. Of the list of twenty works which appears at the head of the article, only three are autotypes—viz., 1873, Facsimiles of Ancient Charters; 1873-83, The Palaeographical Society, Facsimiles of Manuscripts and Inscriptions; 1881, Catalogue of Ancient MSS. in the British Museum. These, with the facsimiles of the Codex Alexandrinus and the Utrecht Psalter quoted in his text, are the only works entitled to the term of "autotype" mentioned in Mr. Hessels' article.

Will you permit us to explain that "autotype" is a specific name adopted by the Autotype Company years ago, and registered in conjunction with a design as their trade-mark. The autotype processes have for their object the production of photographs in permanent pigments. They are of two kinds—the one requiring the exposure of each separate print to the action of light, the other by which a printing plate is prepared, and from which any num-

ber of copies can be printed in printer's ink in an ordinary printing press. This latter process is an evolution of the former one, and is based upon the discoveries of Becquerel, Mungo Ponton, and others, that colloid bodies, such as gelatine, treated so as to render them sensitive to the action of light, become capable of receiving or rejecting printing ink in exact proportion to the lights and shades of a negative, thus producing a monochrome picture having all the gradations of tone that appear in the negative. Similar processes have been carried to a high state of perfection on the Continent by Obernetter, Albert, and others; but what we are specially concerned about is that the word "autotype," being our legal property, should not be used to designate mechanical photographs produced by others than ourselves, for the quality of which we cannot possibly be held responsible. We have not permitted, nor do we intend to permit, the use of the term "autotype" to be applied to any chemical printing except that executed by

THE AUTOTYPE COMPANY.

AN OBSCURE ALLUSION OF SHERIDAN.

Oct. 6, 1884.

A foreign friend has written to me for information on the following subject. In Sheridan's "Rivals" i. 1, Fag says:—

"Indeed, to give the thing an air, I told Thomas that your honour had already enlisted five disbanded chairmen, seven minority waiters, and thirteen billiard markers."

Probably some of your readers can explain the meaning of "minority waiters" and of "disbanded chairmen." Probably the chairmen were carriers of sedan chairs; but why "disbanded"? Was there an association of chairmen? I believe the scene is in Bath, and I am informed that the wheel-chair, now called "Bath-chair," is comparatively a recent invention. H. D.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

- MONDAY, Oct. 13, 8 p.m. Royal Academy: "The Bones of the Human Body," by Prof. John Marshall.
 WEDNESDAY, Oct. 15, 8 p.m. South Place Institute, Finsbury: "Life and Habit," by Mr. Sydney B. J. Skerretchly.
 FRIDAY, Oct. 17, 8 p.m. Royal Academy: "The Bones of the Human Body," by Prof. John Marshall.

SCIENCE.

THE PALAEOGRAPHICAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE LAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

(Third Notice.)

IN the First Notice I have endeavoured to explain in what respects the various photographic publications, commenced in 1859 by Sieckel's *Monumenta Graphica*, could be of service to us. A minute examination of the entire photographic reproductions of four very important MSS. (the Codex Alexandrinus, the Utrecht Psalter, the Epinal Glossary, the Beowulf) had convinced me that photography, in its present condition, is of no great use when we have to deal with the minutiae of textual criticism. I further attempted to show that wholesale reproduction of perfect MSS. enabled us to form a correct opinion as regards the shape or shapes of all the letters occurring in such MSS., but were too costly to be undertaken for this purpose alone; that the reproduction of one or two pages of a MS. being, in the majority of cases, the limits of our palaeographical works, any essay on the history and development of the symbols of our alphabets, based solely on these scanty materials, was necessarily doomed to be more or less incomplete and unreliable. The great advantage, then, of the present photographic reproduc-

tions, was that they supplied us with materials for ascertaining the approximate dates of MSS., and enabled us to study the reading of MSS. without always using the MSS. themselves.

In speaking of the manner in which the editors of the different palaeographical works had performed their tasks, I called attention to the somewhat vague informations they gave us with respect to the internal characteristics of the MSS., and I expressed the hope that in future works this point would be treated more systematically.

At the end of my Notice I made some remarks on the terminology, or rather on the want of a proper terminology, in Palaeography. I had not read any special work on this subject when I wrote these remarks. All I said had suggested itself to me while I made a minute analysis of the volumes of the Palaeographical Society and of the other works which I have mentioned in my first notice. I have since been able to peruse certain parts of Prof. Wattenbach's *Anleitung zur Lateinischen Palaeographie*, and of Dr. Isaac Taylor's elaborate and learned work on the Alphabet. This perusal has convinced me that I need not modify any of my statements. Prof. Wattenbach's treatise is, professedly, introductory, and only deals, as is expressly stated, with the principal scripts—that is to say, all those which had come into use before the ninth century. It excludes, therefore, all the varieties of writings which we see used after that period, and for which I said we ought to find appropriate names a little more definite than the vague term "minuscules." Dr. Taylor, though ranging over a far wider field than Wattenbach, does not go further, in point of time, than the Berlin professor of palaeography. So that, if works dealing with the writing after the eighth century have not escaped me, I need not hesitate to repeat that the scientific and systematic treatment of the scripts of the second half of the Middle Ages has not yet been attempted in any way whatever.

I regret that, in these Notices, I have to point out this defect in palaeography with regard to terminology, without being able to indicate, in some practical way, how far this state of things may be remedied. While analyzing the chief palaeographical works, I had compiled, for my own use, a tolerably complete list of all the plates contained in them. It was my intention to print a selection from this list, or the whole of it, as an Appendix to the present Notices, and as a kind of introduction to a more complete treatise on this subject for which I have already gathered large materials. In this list I had endeavoured to deal with the terminology myself. But it was found to exceed the limits of a weekly paper like the ACADEMY, and what further remarks I have to make must, therefore, be confined to such as can be made without allusion to this list.

Let me say a few words on the so-called "Caroline minuscules." In our first Notice I said that—

"By the end of the eighth century the Caroline writing makes its appearance, and then the term Caroline minuscules affords us some comfort, in one direction, for a couple of centuries."

When we examine this point a little more closely we find some uncertainty, as regards the origin of this writing and the time it arose, which could, perhaps, be removed. Prof. Wattenbach told us in the first edition of his *Lateinische Palaeographie* (p. 10):—

"The Merovingian writing never reached calligraphic perfection, as its peculiar development was cut short by the Carolingian reform. . . . (p. 16) [Charlemagne's] Capitulaire of 789 (cap. 71) *"

* I do not think it superfluous to point out that this clause as read in the edition of the *Capitularia* by Prof. Boretius (published in the *Monumenta Germaniae historica*) differs materially from former editions of it.

prescribed careful correction of Church books; they were to be written only by grown-up men under proper supervision.

The cultivation of the art of writing was added to the newly arisen criticism, which directed itself especially to the emendation of the orthography, which had run completely wild, and to the interpolation. For works of luxury they returned to uncials; for ordinary use they formed a minuscule, which was essentially a reform of the Merovingian script [under the influence of the old minuscule; added in third edition]. It is too peculiar not to trace it to some definite period, which could be no other than Alcuin's celebrated school in the monastery of St. Martin at Tours, over which he presided from 796-804. His disciples spread themselves over the whole of Frankland, and with them this new art of writing. It reminds us partly of the Merovingian, partly of the half-uncial script, and occasionally takes up Anglo-Saxon elements. By degrees the regular, straight minuscule arose from this writing. In distinction from this the Caroline writing is more round, and still more mixed with cursive elements and isolated uncial letters; the separation of words is imperfect; and the writing is characteristic on account of its long, club-shaped strokes."

Prof. Wattenbach repeats all these statements in his third edition, but interspersed with a few new ones, which do not seem to harmonise entirely with the old, though the author appears not to observe this discrepancy. After remarking (p. 28) how Jaffé had argued that if Alcuin had introduced the new minuscule into Frankland the writing would have had chiefly an Anglo-Saxon character, Prof. Wattenbach observes

"that there seems no ground for such reasoning. If in the writing-school of Tours, the great activity of which is beyond question, another script had been in use, we should be able to trace it in the numerous MSS. of that period which have been preserved to us. Moreover, the activity in writing had commenced much earlier; the celebrated Evangelium of Godeschalk is of 781. At the court much was written, and the Abbat Gervold established a writing-school at St. Wandrille. Somewhat similar must have happened in many places. Personally, Alcuin exercised perhaps but little influence in this respect; a MS. which he sent to Arn (Colon. civ.) shows many hands (Arndt, Taf. 33, 34, 37-40). The Bern Virgil-Codex (165), in Caroline minuscules, originated in St. Martin's (see C. W. Müller, De Codd. Virgili, tab. iii., spec. iii.). Minuscules and Chancery-writing is mixed in the Heidelberg Paulus diaconus (see Waitz's ed. tab. iv.). In this way several modes of writing remained, for a long time, in use by the side of each other."

The above statements are somewhat involved and contradictory, but it seems clear that Alcuin is not here the principal man in forming the so-called Caroline minuscule.

The same differences may be observed between Prof. Wattenbach's first and third editions, in his chapter on the Anglo-Saxon writing. "The Anglo-Saxon missionaries," he tells us in his first edition, p. 15, "imported this [Anglo-Saxon] writing, especially the minuscule, if we may call it so, into the Frankish empire, where it operated considerably on the formation of the new Frankish minuscule (wo sie auf die Gestaltung der neuen fränkischen Minuskel bedeutend eingewirkt hat)." But in his third edition (p. 26), the word *bedeutend* (= considerably) is omitted. Again, in his first edition (p. 13), "the Scottish monks . . . have exercised the most considerable influence on the ornamentation of Frankish MSS." But in his third edition these Scottish monks "have exercised the most considerable influence on the ornamentation of Frankish, Langobardic, Visigothic MSS." Here we have no withdrawal or partial withdrawal, but a strengthening and expansion of the earlier statement. But I limit my inquiry to the writing.

Somewhat more elaborate statements with

regard to the Caroline writing, its origin and the time when it arose, may be read in Dr. Taylor's Alphabet, and Messrs. Bond and Thompson's Preface to the Palaeographical Society. Dr. Taylor says (vol. ii., p. 180):—

"In the West, as in the East, the ninth century is marked by a new graphic departure . . . in the West it was due to the cosmopolitan culture introduced with the Carolingian empire. The reform of the Western scripts, which had been for some time impending, was accelerated by the foundation in the abbey of St. Martin at Tours (796-809 [?] A.D.), of the celebrated school established by Alcuin of York, the friend and preceptor of Charlemagne. Alcuin's literary eminence, his Northumbrian training, his residence in Italy, and his position at the Court of Charlemagne, had made him acquainted with the traditions of the best calligraphic schools of Europe, and gave him the influence necessary for securing the adoption of his reforms. The new script, though obtained mainly from the rounded English book-hand of the eighth century (See Pal. Soc., p. 163, 164) with which Alcuin must have been familiar during his earlier years at York, incorporated elements derived from the Lombardic minuscule, the Roman uncial, and possibly from the Merovingian cursive. Owing to its manifold excellencies, such as the rapidity with which it could be written, the ease with which it could be read, and economy of parchment, the Caroline minuscule, as it is usually called, grew rapidly in favour, and being diffused by Alcuin's pupils over Europe, displaced the older majuscule scripts. . . ."

Messrs. Bond and Thompson say:

"It was not until the revival of literature under Charlemagne that considerable progress appears to have been made towards the formation of a pure minuscule writing. By the appointment of Alcuin, of York, as chief instructor of the School of the Palace, the Emperor took the first step towards the revival of education in his dominions. Then it was that the necessary revision of the corrupted texts of the Scriptures and works of the Fathers, and the multiplication of MSS. as instruments of teaching, opened the way to the establishment of schools of calligraphy. Chief among them was that of the Abbey of St. Martin of Tours, to which Alcuin retired from Court to become its abbat in the year 796, and which rose, under his fostering care, into the first rank as a centre of learning, in whose busy scriptorium a clear and simple minuscule was evolved. . . . It is to be noted . . . that the Irish and English schools of calligraphy have left their mark in the first productions of the new style. Details of their forms of ornament are there; and it is not too much to attribute to the clear and regular writing of the English MSS. which Alcuin had studied in the library of York some (!) influence in the elaboration of the Caroline minuscule, which, freeing itself from useless intricacies, rapidly established itself at the beginning of the ninth century in the Frankish Empire, and became a type to be imitated in neighbouring States."

How far Dr. Taylor and Messrs. Bond and Thompson express here independent opinions, or only elaborate Prof. Wattenbach's, we need not inquire. The Alcuin story is an old one, but is it well founded?

Let us see what actually happens. It is beyond doubt that Charlemagne legislated, in 788 and 789 (see Baluze, Capitularia), in behalf of the emendation or correction of all the then existing literature: legal, ecclesiastical, educational. And in one of his ordinances of these years he states that he had already been at work, in this direction, for some time past. But I cannot find any clause in his Capitularia in which he deals, in particular, with the *scripts* of his time. I do not pretend to have read the Capitularia from beginning to end. But I suppose that if he had, the authors on Palaeography, whom I have just quoted, would have said so. One thing is certain; the official or chancery hand which we see used under Charlemagne's predecessors was still employed in his own time (see Herquet's Specimina) without any more modification

than may be observed in all scripts during a course of some sixty or seventy years. Charlemagne's judgment of 812 (Palaeogr. Soc., plate 237) does not differ so essentially from Pepin's judgment of 750 (Palaeogr. Soc., plate 120) as to suggest any royal interference or Alcuin's fostering care. It is true, the official or chancery hand, from the moment we can trace such writing, differed, in all countries, from all other non-official hand-writings, and, therefore, Charlemagne's chancery script was likely to differ from the minuscules which are said to have originated in the St. Martin's School at Tours. But royal anxiety to introduce a reformed script would very likely have brought about some changes in Charlemagne's own chancery, and perhaps greater and more rapid changes in a space of nearly twenty years, than is observable in the 812 document, which, according to the editors of the Palaeographical Society themselves, is written "in minuscules of the transitional style between cursive Merovingian and set Caroline minuscules." Nor must we forget that Alcuin, though he was appointed to the Tours Abbey in 796, does not seem to have "retired from Court" till 801.

So much for the official Frankish writing. Do we find Alcuin's influence, or the influence of the training he had received at York, &c., in the non-official Frankish writing of his time? Is there any similarity between the Anglo-Saxon and the Frankish writing of that period? Dr. Taylor thinks there is. He expressly refers us to plates 163 and 164 of the Palaeographical Society. But I confess I do not see how the writing of these two plates could demonstrate Anglo-Saxon influence on the formation of the Caroline minuscules, unless we first shut our eyes to the fact that the Franks knew the art of writing before Alcuin arrived at Tours or in Frankland. Let us also look at the Palaeographical Society's plates 141, 139, 140, 10, 12, 7, 90, 91, 23. Do these Anglo-Saxon scripts foreshadow the coming Caroline minuscules? I doubt it. Let us turn to Dr. Taylor's p. 164 of his second volume, where we find the Caroline minuscule figured in the eighth stage, while the alphabet immediately preceding it (the seventh stage, or Irish uncial, of the seventh century, taken from the Book of Kells) is supposed to have been adopted for the Caroline writing. "From the table on p. 164 it will be seen," says Dr. Taylor on p. 186,

"that the letters *b d f h l m n r* are the old Roman cursives, transmitted from Gaul to Ireland in the fifth century, thence to England in the seventh, and adopted into the Caroline minuscule in the ninth."

It is rather hard to believe this! It would seem as if Dr. Taylor had wished to destroy by his own plate the theory of Anglo-Saxon influence on Frankish writing.

On the other hand there is such a great family-likeness between the continental (resp. Frankish) writing of the two or three centuries anterior to Alcuin's residence in Charlemagne's dominions, and the writings of Alcuin's time, that we could scarcely think of any foreign influence when we watch, attentively, without any bias, the rise and progress of the particular minuscule which we call the Caroline minuscule. Let us take first plate 68 of the Palaeographical Society. It is writing of the sixth century. We may continue our comparison with plates 119 and 120; further the plates in Herquet's work; Sickel's plates 2 and 3 (in fasc. iv.), pl. 2 (second writing, in fasc. i.), pl. 3 (second writing, in fasc. viii.), pl. 4-7 (in fasc. i.); Arndt's plates 10-13 and the facsimiles in Bibl. de l'École des Chartes, VIth ser., vol. i., where we have together writing of 754 and of circa 850. Arndt's plate 12 has no certain date, but he calls it writing of the transitional period (eighth century). And what

do we want a "transitional period" or a "transitional style" in Frankish writing for, when we ascribe the formation of a particular minuscule to the legislation of a great emperor and the care and influence of a great scholar?

Are not these circumstances which would have brought about a somewhat sudden alteration and not a gradual development? But special attention may be called to Arndt's pl. 36, which represents, if the author is not mistaken, writing of the second half of the eighth century. It is taken from a Metz Necrology, therefore from a MS. written at Metz, a long way off from Tours. The date is probably derived from entries found in the Necrology, and could, perhaps, not be stated more definitely, and I can find nothing precise in *Forschungen zur Deutschen Gesch.* xiii., 597, where the MS. is described. But "second half of the eighth century" could not well mean after 796, *id est*, after the establishment of Alcuin's school at Tours. The writing must be placed before, perhaps, a good many years before, that date. Consequently, writing, which we ought to call Caroline writing, for it very much resembles it, is already found long before Alcuin's residence in Frankland. But suppose there were no objections to dating the Caroline minuscule from Alcuin's establishment of the Tours school, *id est* from 796, how then could we ascribe documents, written in well-developed Caroline minuscules, to the eighth century? A facsimile of a "Mappemonde de St. Sever" is exhibited in one of the glass cases in the British Museum, and is said to be "of the eighth century." It is written, if my eyes did not deceive me (I only saw it for about two minutes), in beautiful, well-developed Caroline minuscules. If these are presumed to be Alcuin's minuscules, then the document could not have been executed before 796, and "eighth century," which might refer even to before 750, would be too loose a date for it. But if there is evidence that the map was really written before the "ninth century," then it is another example which speaks against the theory that the so-called Caroline minuscule was due to Alcuin and the St. Martin's School of Tours.

No doubt Charlemagne's encouragement to literature and education, and Alcuin's personality must have influenced the writing of the time in some way or other, but we could not very well go so far as to say that the writing of Alcuin's period was a "new script" and had been "obtained mainly from the rounded English book-hand of the eighth century."

We must, naturally, confine our comparison to MSS. which have certain or approximately certain dates or may, for some reason or other, be grouped round our period. We should merely deceive ourselves if, for instance, we included in our comparison such writing as Arndt's plate 5b, which is said to be Anglo-Saxon writing, and which comes very near to the Caroline script, but is of a later date.

Messrs. Bond and Thompson speak of Alcuin and his influence with some caution, which Dr. Taylor did not think necessary. But in both cases we seem to have an embellishment of an earlier story, introduced into the study of Palaeography by Professor Wattenbach in the first edition of his *Lateinische Palaeographie*, but substantially withdrawn in his third edition. Dr. Taylor seems somewhat inclined to write from hearsay rather than from autopsy. Witness his account of the progress of the art of printing in the 15th century, on p. 182 of his second volume:—

"The first printers being Germans, they naturally imitated the black letter of the monkish missals then locally in fashion. . . . When the art of printing was carried south of the Alps by the German monks of Subiaco they took with them their black letter types, but soon found it desirable to conform to the requirements of the Italian book-market by an imitation of the finer forms of

the older minuscule which had come into fashion among the Italian scribes. The Lactantius printed at Subiaco in 1465, for which the types were cut by Sweinheim, is the first book in which an approach to the rounded Roman forms is seen. Two years later, in 1467, Sweinheim printed at Rome, with greatly improved types, the Epistles of Cicero. In 1470 these Roman types, as they were called from the place where they were first adopted, were brought to Paris and used at the Sorbonne for the first book printed in France."

I feel sure Dr. Taylor will write a different account in his second edition if he studies, beforehand, the first productions of the early German, Subiaco and Paris presses.

I submit the above remarks to the consideration of palaeographers, especially to Messrs. Bond and Thompson, before they commence their second ten years' series. It may be that I am wrong, and that the Alcuin story is correct. But what I wish to impress upon them is that there appears no such contact between the Anglo-Saxon and Frankish writing in the plates of their first series as would alone justify us in accepting the story, especially when there are so many reasons for rejecting it. Here, then, is another, a very great, inducement for keeping the Palaeographical Society going. The point is, moreover, not without interest, I think, to historians and biographers. For instance, under the article "Alcuin" in the *Dictionary of Christian Biography* (published by Mr. John Murray) nothing is said which can give us any light whatever regarding Alcuin's whereabouts during the years 796–804; and, strange to say, the article omits even the year in which he died, or is supposed to have died.

A few observations may still find a place here. Without claiming to have Messrs. Bond and Thompson's experience, I may, perhaps, remark that for their coming ten years' work they should trace the outlines, or rather a little more than the outlines, before they begin. They know now, to some extent, how many plates they can issue for a certain amount of money. The subscriptions of 320* members (ten guineas each) has enabled them to issue 260 plates. Suppose they can find again 320 members, well, then they could again issue 260 plates. The two chiefs of the Manuscript Department of the British Museum must be well informed, or be able to become well informed, as regards the most important, or most interesting, MSS. still existing. It could, therefore, be no very great difficulty to them to draw up a list of such MSS. as should appear to them worth being photographed. This method would enable them (1) to have a somewhat complete view of their coming work; (2) to arrange their plates in some chronological order from the outset; (3) to fix upon some definite terminology without which a second ten years' series ought certainly not to be undertaken.

All this could, perhaps, not be executed with absolute accuracy. But the adoption of some (though perhaps imperfect) system, before starting, is always preferable to no system at all. And under no circumstances should two documents of different dates be printed on one plate, as is done (*e.g.*) on plate 12 of the Palaeographical Society; on which one charter belongs to the years 793–794, while the other is dated 904, which makes a chronological arrangement of these writings impossible without cutting up the plate. The same difficulty we have on plate 217, on which one document is dated 1227–31, the other 1259, whereby two other plates (125 and 218, of 1240 and 1250) are prevented from falling into chronological place. There are other instances equally interfering

* In my first notice I said that there had been 400 members of the Palaeographical Society. But Mr. Thompson has since informed me, that there were never at any time more than 320.

with a strictly chronological arrangement. The reason for this combination is clear—namely, that of saving expense; but in such costly volumes convenience of arrangement, binding, &c., should also be taken into account.

Another difficulty is caused by reducing the size of the writing in the photograph. This has been done with some of the plates in Schum's work, where it was perhaps unavoidable in a book of comparatively small dimensions. But we find also King John's Magna Carta reduced in the first part of the Facsimiles of National MSS., published by the Ordnance Survey.* In this case there seems to have been no valid reason for doing so. Even now the plate containing the "slight reduction" is a folding plate; consequently, if the charter had been given in its original size, it would have made no difference in the handling of the plate. Expense could not have been an object in this instance; and if it had been, we could have done without the next plate, which is merely a "great reduction" of the same charter, therefore simply a piece of curiosity.

Looking at all the Anglo-Saxon and later charters published by means of photography by the British Museum, and the Ordnance Survey (English and Irish series), it seems desirable that these should be brought together in a convenient, and especially in a comprehensive and scholarly edition, which could be trusted by historians, philologists, lawyers, &c., &c. Such an edition should, of course, be prepared from the original charters, not from the transliterations which accompany the photographs. These are, on the whole, accurately done, but still they were not meant to supersede the charters themselves. It seems high time to take steps towards such an edition. The Germans are already preparing a new edition of the Anglo-Saxon laws. That published by Thorpe, in 1840, does not satisfy them any longer, and one of the editors of the *Monumenta Germaniae Historica* has been going through Europe, the last two years, to collect the necessary materials for the new work which is to be published, I understand, by the German Savigny Society. There is every reason to fear (or to hope?) that the condition in which the charters of this country are left will not escape their attention. And we should not be in the least surprised if, some day, we see one or two young Germans undertake this work too.

A few concluding words on some of the chief Palaeographical works published abroad. I have already referred to Profs. Zangemeister and Wattenbach's *Exempla Codicum Latinorum litteris maiusculis scriptorum*, but at a moment when I had to point out that they ought to have given transliterations of their texts. I could not therefore speak then of their work in such terms as would suggest that it is one of high merit. But this it really is. They confined their collection, consisting of 62 plates, to MSS. written in square capitals, rustic capitals, and uncials, from the first to the eighth century of our era, and, therefore, of the highest value and the greatest interest. By the help of their plates, executed "nova heliotypa arte," there is no difficulty in studying the writing of that long period.

Drs. Ewald and Loewe have dealt with the

* The titles of the two series of photozincographic plates published by the Ordnance Survey, have, unaccountably, been omitted from the list of photographic publications printed in my First Notice. They are:

Facsimiles of National MSS., from William the Conqueror to Queen Anne, photozincographed by the Director of the Ordnance Survey. 4 pts. 1865–69.

Facsimiles of Anglo-Saxon MSS., photozincographed by the Director of the Ordnance Survey. 2 pts. 1878–1881.

Visigothic writing in a collection of 40 (41) plates exclusively devoted to that purpose. Their plates embrace the period from the sixth to the twelfth century.

A very difficult, but very useful, task was undertaken by Dr. Schum, in attempting to photograph and transliterate some of the philosophical and scientific MSS. in the Amplonian Library at Erfurt. The MSS. of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth century are by no means easy to decipher, and the writing is sometimes so uniform in a great many parts of Europe, that it is well-nigh impossible to distinguish the one handwriting from the other. Dr. Schum has attempted to deal with these difficult MSS. in fifty-five plates, representing writing from the ninth to the fifteenth century, and has in all cases given a transliteration of the difficult texts of his plates.

Sickel in his *Monumenta* travels over somewhat the same period as the volumes of the Palaeographical Society, though he did not take up inscriptions, and confined himself more to continental writing.

The volumes of the Ecole des Chartes, of E. Monaci, and of Vitelli and Paoli are in progress, and it will be better to speak of them when completed. I have not included in my notices the various little treatises on Palaeography, accompanied by admirable photographs, by M. Leopold Delisle, as minuteness was out of the question.

Not much space is left to me for Greek Palaeography. As long as capitals, uncials, cursives are used, Greek writing is not without variety and abounds with features of the greatest importance. The history of some of the fragments and codices by itself is interesting. But little could be said here on this subject which has not already been explained by Profs. Kirchhoff and Wattenbach, Dr. Taylor, and Messrs. Bond and Thompson. After minuscule writing has come in (ninth century), there is less variety in Greek Palaeography, as may be seen in Wattenbach and Von Velzen's *Exempla*, a photographic work, exclusively devoted to this writing. But explanations of such variety as there is, or of the signs of contractions and ligatures, with which the writings abound, could not be made interesting or clear in any sense of the word without the proper types, and these I have not at my disposal. For the present, therefore, I must refer to the above-mentioned authors.

I have already been asked why I made no mention of the volume on Oriental Palaeography, published by the London Palaeographical Society under the editorship of Prof. William Wright. The reason is simple. Being only slightly acquainted with one of the languages dealt with in that work, I felt sure that I could do no justice to all the learning found in it, even if I had the requisite types at my command. Discretion, I thought, was in such a case the better part of valour. My chief aim in writing these notices has been to call attention to such defects in photography, in the study of Palaeography, and in the editing of Palaeographical works as suggested themselves to me while I was endeavouring to instruct myself. I hope the remarks I have made may be instructive to others also.

J. H. HESSELS.

PHILOLOGICAL BOOKS.

I Reti in relazione cogli antichi Abitatori d'Italia. By G. A. Oberziner. (Rome: Artero.) This is an important work for the study, not only of Italian archaeology, but of that of Central Europe as well. The author has collected all the facts bearing on the subject which have been brought to light by the excavations and researches of the last few years, and he has been assisted in classifying and interpreting them by his own wide reading and scientific method. The value

of the book is much increased by the numerous illustrations with which it is adorned; in fact, archaeological arguments cannot be properly understood or appreciated without the help of illustrations. The conclusions arrived at are briefly that the primitive Italic tribes on reaching Italy found it already occupied by Ibero-Ligurians who were living in an age of stone. The Italic tribes themselves brought with them a knowledge of bronze, and constructed the *terremari* and pile-dwellings of northern Italy. With the introduction of iron from the south, they branched off into separate populations known as Etruscans, Umbrians, Euganeans, &c., among whom the Umbrians were the first to play a leading part. They were followed by the Etruscans, whose peculiar characteristics were due to contact with Phoenicians and Greeks. In drawing these conclusions, Sig. Oberziner depends almost entirely on archaeological and anthropological arguments, and does not touch upon philology. It will, however, be difficult for him to find converts to his views about the origin of the Etruscans. Their peculiarities cannot be explained merely by contact with Greeks and Phoenicians, because other Italic populations came into contact with the same races without undergoing a similar strange transformation; moreover, the Etruscan language, so far as we know it, shows no trace of the influence which such a contact would imply. But the arguments urged by Sig. Oberziner will have to be considered in future discussions of the Etruscan problem. One of the most interesting points raised by a study of Sig. Oberziner's book is the source of the culture that distinguished northern Italy in the amber-age, that is to say, in the prehistoric period when the amber-trade was still carried on between the Baltic and the Adriatic. A comparison of the art revealed to us by recent discoveries north of the Po, with that of objects found in the southern provinces of Austria goes to show that it migrated from east to west. And since it has very decided affinities to the art of early Greece in what may be termed the Phoenician period, it is difficult not to suppose that a stream of culture once passed northwards through Thrace, and then westwards along the line of the Save until it met the *route* of the amber-trade. The curious discoveries made by Miss von Torma in Transylvania, a detailed account of which is soon promised us, are likely to throw a considerable amount of light on this interesting question.

Die Längenmasse der Alten. By R. Lepsius. (Berlin: Hertz; London: Williams & Norgate.) We take up this little book with a melancholy interest. It was the last production of a great and genial scholar, Prof. Lepsius. It proves how clear and strong the veteran Egyptologist's brain remained to the last, and how keen his interest continued to be in all that could throw light on the history of the ancient East. The book was the result of a controversy on Babylonian measures with Prof. Oppert, which is usually regarded as having terminated in Lepsius's favour. In it he surveys the whole system of Egyptian and Babylonian measures, along with the Persian, Greek, and Roman ones which were derived from them. The measures are fixed with a fulness of material and learning which will long make the work, small as it is, a standard authority on the subject with which it deals.

Ueber Keilinschriften. By C. Bezold. (Berlin.) This is a short but clearly written and comprehensive account of the cuneiform inscriptions and their interpretation. The author is himself an Assyriologist, and therefore writes with accuracy and authority. Considering its size, it is the best popular account of the subject with which we are acquainted.

M. CLERMONT-GANNEAU has published a report on the results of his Mission to Palestine and Phoenicia in 1881. It is illustrated with all the excellence and accuracy to which French engravers have now accustomed us. The objects, however, enumerated and engraved are all disappointing, with the exception of the Siloam inscription, which illness prevented M. Ganneau from examining until it had been thoroughly worked at by English and German scholars. The disappointment is not the fault of M. Ganneau, but of the nature of the case. The surface of the soil in Palestine has been almost exhaustively explored, and it is questionable whether anything further of archaeological interest can be discovered upon it. What is now wanted is excavation. The existence of such monuments as the Moabite Stone and the Siloam inscription above ground proves how much there must be under ground, and we now know pretty well what are the proper places in which to dig. Money and above all the permission of the Turkish authorities are alone needed to produce results of the highest archaeological and Biblical interest.

THE Nabataean inscriptions brought back by Mr. Charles Doughty from Medain Salihin, Northern Arabia, have just been published (Paris: Klincksieck) under the auspices of the Académie des Inscriptions. They are edited by M. Renan, who has written a preface and a translation. When compared with those found by M. Huber in the same region, these inscriptions throw much light not only upon the history of the Nabataean monarchy, but also upon the social condition of the people. A considerable number of them are dated, which is very rare with Oriental inscriptions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

VEGHA OR VEKHA.

Wood Green: Oct. 4, 1884.

If we were quite sure that *vegha* has the sense of "difficulty" or "trouble" in the passages already referred to, then Prof. Kern's suggestion would be perfectly convincing. Pāli has the word *viggha*, which Childers rightly refers to Sanskrit *vighna*; and it is quite possible, too, for a prākṛitised variant *vegha* to have co-existed along with *viggha*, for we have *nekha*, as well as *nikkha* (from "niska"), and *inghāla* and *aṅgāra*. But there are one or two points that seem to militate against Prof. Kern's theory that *vegha* = "difficulty."

1. The explanation of the two commentators quoted is dead against it. Their interpretation, traditional though it be, should count for something. My etymology is based upon the remarks of the commentaries, and, if they are wrong, my explanation and derivation fall to the ground. I venture to think that "binding" or "obligatory" would suit the context of *vegghamissena* better than "troublesome."

2. The force and appropriateness of the comparison seem to be spoiled by the use of *veggha* in the sense of "difficulty"; for would there not be a *difficulty* in keeping up or maintaining anything that was old and shaky? Why should an old cart be specially mentioned? Why not an old bed, chair, lamp, in fact anything old and rickety?

It is possible to let the reading of the Sinhalese MSS. stand as a variant of *vekha* or *vekkha*. Dr. Trenckner has shown that Pāli has such duplicates as *lageti* and *laketi*, *lagula* and *lakuta*, *chagana* and *chakana*,* *paligha* and *palikha*. Why, then, may there not have been a *veggha* as well as a *vekha*?† Perhaps the form

* Cf. Pāli *lakāra* (not in Childers), a chain attached to a well, with Marathi *langara*.

† The literary Prākṛits have *mekha* for *megha*, and Marathi has *regha* for *rekha*.

vegha was preferred to *vekha* because, as sacrifices were an abomination to the Buddhists, they would not be anxious to preserve that form of the word which would remind them of its true origin and connexion with sacrificial rites.

Whether *vegha* or *vekha* be the correct form, or whether it is to be explained as "difficult," &c., must be left for those more competent than myself to decide; but Prof. Kern's explanation is valuable and suggestive; and he certainly proves that a Pāli form *vegha* is a representative of Sanskrit *vighna*.
R. MORRIS.

SCIENCE NOTES.

THE trustees of the British Museum have just published a "Guide to the Mineral Gallery," by Mr. L. Fletcher, the keeper of this Department. Mr. Fletcher's little work, so far from being a mere guide-book, contains an excellent introduction to the principles of mineralogy, and will be read with much profit by students of this science. Great improvements in the arrangement of the Mineral Gallery have lately been effected by the introduction of a series of specimens arranged to illustrate the physical characters of minerals.

THE following courses of lectures will be given at Cambridge during the present term: on "Double Refraction and Polarisation," by Prof. Stokes; "General Principles of Chemistry," by Prof. Liveing; and "Evolution in the Animal Kingdom," by Prof. Newton.

MR. EDWARD STANFORD has in preparation *A Parliamentary County Atlas of England and Wales*, containing maps of the counties engraved on a uniform scale, showing the parliamentary divisions, boundaries of boroughs, statistics of population, &c. This atlas includes a series of physical, statistical, and administrative maps of England and Wales, among which may be mentioned a river basin map; a map indicating the plains, hills, and mountains; a registration map, showing the grouping of the counties into registration divisions; a map illustrating the present condition of parliamentary representation; others show respectively the distribution of the population, the occupations of the people, and the death-rate for each county and for the twenty largest towns. These are followed by a coal-field map, and a map illustrating the agricultural statistics. The atlas will also include a series of parliamentary statistical maps of London, maps of the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, and a geological map of the British Isles. Each county map is accompanied by a brief description.

MR. STANFORD is also preparing *A School Map of British Colonies and Possessions*, drawn on a uniform scale, a map of the British Isles occupying the centre to serve as an index to scale, while the various colonies and possessions are arranged within separate borders or panels, but are kept as far as possible in their proper relative positions with Great Britain.

THE same publisher will shortly issue *A Trigonometrical Survey of the Island of Cyprus*, executed by command of Major-Gen. Sir R. Biddulph, under the direction of Major H. H. Kitchener, assisted by Lieut. S. C. N. Grant. The map is drawn to a scale of one inch to one statute mile.

THE concluding volume of Stanford's Compendium of Geography and Travel—*Europe*, by Messrs. F. W. Rudler and G. G. Chisholm, edited by Sir Andrew C. Ramsay, with Ethnological Appendix, by A. H. Keane, is announced as in preparation, as is also a second and much enlarged edition of *The Geography of Weymouth, Portland and the Coast of Dorset*, with coloured geological map, section, and photographic frontispiece.

MR. ARTHUR SILVERTHORNE will publish shortly through Messrs. Crosby, Lockwood, & Co. a volume entitled *Provincial Water Supplies*, which is represented to afford a complete critical and statistical view of the water supply of the United Kingdom.

MESSRS. TRÜBNER & Co. have in preparation *Air Analysis: a Practical Treatise on the Examination of Air*, by Messrs. J. A. Wanklyn and W. J. Cooper; *The Mammoth and its Lessons: an Appeal from Metaphysics to Science in Geology*, by Henry H. Howorth; *The Nigritians*, by A. Featherman, which will eventually form vol. i. of the author's "Social History of the Races of Mankind"; *The Wild Flowers of the Riviera*, by Clarence Bicknell, illustrated from drawings by the author; *South African Butterflies: a Monograph of the Extra-Tropical Species*, by Roland Trimen; and a new edition of *The Wave of Translation in its Application to the Three Oceans of Water, Air, and Ether*, by the late Mr. J. Scott Russell.

MESSRS. W. SWAN SONNENSCHN & Co.'s announcements include:—*An Elementary Text-Book of Zoology*, by Prof. W. Claus, edited by Messrs. Adam Sedgwick and W. G. Heathcote, of which the first volume is just published; *An Elementary Text-Book of Entomology*, by Mr. W. F. Kirby; a new edition of Profs. Prantl and Vines' *Elementary Text-Book of Botany*; *Life Histories of Plants*, with an Introduction to the Comparative Study of Plants and Animals on a physiological basis, by Prof. A. MacAlpine; *A Bibliography and Index of Climatology*, by Mr. A. Ramsay; a translation of Profs. Masgeli and Schwendener's *The Microscope in Theory and Practice*; a book on *The Dynamo*, by Mr. S. R. Bottone, reprinted from the *English Mechanic*; a translation, revised by J. S. Stallybrass, of Prof. Hehn's *History and Migrations of Cultivated Plants and Domestic Animals*; *The Evolution of Flowers*, by Mr. Grant Allen; *The Entomology of a Pond*, by Mr. E. A. Butler; and several books on Popular Science and Natural History.

PHILOLOGY NOTES.

PROF. WRIGHT will deliver three courses of lectures at Cambridge during the present term: (1) Arabic, *Al-Hariri, Mak. 7*; (2) Syriac, *Abbeloos, De Vita et Scriptis S. Jacobi Sarugensis*; and (3) on the Comparative Grammar of Arabic, Syriac, and Hebrew.

THE third part of Prof. Bugge's *Mythologische Studien* is now in type. He treats of the myth of the offering of Odin and of the Yggdrasil-tree, and compares the Christian representations of the Crucifixion and the Cross.

THE first part of the series of Irish texts which Herr Hirzel, of Leipzig, is publishing, has been printed off, and will soon be issued. It contains, first, one of the Middle-Irish versions of the *Destruction of Troy*, with an English version and notes by Mr. Whitley Stokes; secondly, the Old-Irish (ninth century) glosses on the Karlsruhe Codex of S. Augustine's *Soliloquia*. These are edited, with a commentary, by Prof. Windisch; thirdly, *Bricriu's Feast and the Exile of Dul Dermot's Sons*, edited from the Yellow Book of Lecan, with a German translation and notes, by Prof. Windisch. Dr. Kuno Meyer's edition of the *Alexander-saga*, from the Speckled Book, will probably appear in the second part of this series.

DR. A. ZIETSC has printed in Germany, in parallel columns, the two versions of "The Siege of Troy," after Dares, in the Harleian MS. 525 and the Lincoln's Inn MS. 150.

AT a recent meeting of the Académie des Inscriptions, M. Jules Oppert read a paper upon "An Assyrian Inscription relating to the

Lunar Cycles." More than twenty years ago, M. Oppert discovered in the inscriptions of King Sargon the mention of a great lunar cycle, one revolution of which ended with the year 712 B.C. Subsequently he came to the conclusion that this lunar cycle is identical with that of 1805 years, or 22,325 lunar changes, after which the series of eclipses of the moon recommence in their former order. The Chaldeans, then, were acquainted with this cycle, which implies astronomical observations continued over a large number of centuries. They make this cycle begin with the year 11,542 B.C., the starting point also of the Sothic cycles of 1,460 years, the last of which ends in 139 A.D. These two cycles, of 1460 and 1805 years, occupied of old a prominent place in the east for the computation of chronology. Two-lve of each of them, viz., 17,520 and 21,660 years, give 292 and 361 multiples of sixty years, periods which are found in the Bible to represent the two intervals between the flood and the birth of Abraham, and between the birth of Abraham and the death of Joseph. In a Babylonian tablet that he has recently studied, M. Oppert finds a fresh proof of the importance, in the ancient kingdoms of Asia, of these two great cycles, both of which start from 11,542 B.C.

FINE ART.

Surrey Bells and London Bell Founders. BY J. C. L. Stahlschmidt. (Elliot Stock.)

A PAST MASTER of the Founders' Company has produced a volume upon *Surrey Bells* which places that county in the position to which Sussex, Cambridge, Norfolk, and Gloucestershire have already been elevated. He promises a similar work on the Bells of Kent. He treats, moreover, the history of London bell-founders, and intends to carry on his researches to later periods. We venture to hope that in further treatment of the subject we shall be told more about bells considered as musical instruments. Names of founders and their wills and bargains are all very well; so, too, are the inscriptions they or their employers saw fit to mould upon their bells, but this is not enough. We want chiefly to know how bells sound; we want to be told what kind of bells the early London founders made, and how they learnt to improve them; we want to hear about their shapes and sizes, the notes they rang, the way they were hung, the materials they were made of, and whether they were in tune or not. When Mr. Stahlschmidt comes to deal with the London bell-founders of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries we shall want him to tell us whether they learnt anything from the Van den Gheyns and Hemons of the Netherlands, whether Dutch workmen were employed, and what influence they produced upon their English contemporaries. Perhaps we are too exacting. Mr. Stahlschmidt will tell us that he has called his book "A Contribution to the Comparative Study of Bell Inscriptions." As a matter of fact, he goes beyond the narrow limits thus defined, and we hope that he will transgress them still further. On the other hand, for what he has given us we are extremely thankful. His work is honest and thorough. He has not been in a hurry. He has read with patience a great many archives, and rendered them accessible to all future workers.

The first and, as it seems to us, the most valuable part of his book is an account,

extending over seventy-four pages, of the bell-founders of London down to the year 1420, the approximate date at which the use of Lombardic capitals in bell-inscriptions was given up in exchange for black letter. This account is the result of a careful examination of the City archives, especially of the rolls of the Hustings Court of London. Reference is made to every citizen who, for one reason or another, may have been a bell-founder. Bell-founding in early times was only one of the branches of the trade of a "potter." All bell-founders lived at the extreme east of the city, namely, in the Aldgate and Portsoken Wards, and chiefly in "the main street from St. Andrew's Church to that of St. Botolph-without-Aldgate, these two churches, but especially the latter, being pre-eminent by the bell-founders' churches." Leaving out of the question Alwoldus "campanarius" (c. 1150), who was probably a bell-ringer only, the questionable Benedictus, called "Le Seynter," who was sheriff in 1216, and a few more, we are brought in contact, at the close of the thirteenth century, with a family of genuine bell-founders. These were the Wymbishes. Of Michael Wymbish (1297-1310) there are two bells at Bradenham, Bucks. Of Richard (1303-13) there are six, in the counties of Oxford, Suffolk, Kent, Hampshire, and Essex; moreover, we have a contract entered into between him and the prior and convent of the church of the Holy Trinity in London in 1312, "to make one bell, good, entire, and well-sounding, and as nearly in tune, to the utmost of his power, with the greater bell of the church." Walter Wymbish, who made one of the bells at Kingston-by-Lewes, belonged to the same period. His successor, John Aleyn, one of whose bells is at Southease, is likewise of uncertain date; and so, too, is Geoffrey of Edelmeton, though the style of the lettering on his bell at Billericay in Essex shows that he belonged to about the same period. The will, enrolled in 1311, of Robert Lorchon, a founder, if not a bell-founder, is an interesting document. He leaves to his daughter "totum illud tenementum in quo habitavi die obitus mei cum celaro solario gardino braschambre [foundry] cum shopa et aliis suis pertinentibus adeo integre sicut illud tenui in vita mea." To this will Henry in the Lane, among others, was executor. He was a leading "potter," whether bell-founder or not is uncertain. He was one of the experts appointed in 1316 by the Mayor and Aldermen of London to report on the fair quantity of alloy to be put into brass goods. His will was enrolled in 1330, and is one of the documents printed *verbatim et literatim* by Mr. Stahl Schmidt. Peter de Weston, his kinsman, first mentioned in 1336, made some of the bells at Fairstead, Great Waltham, Whitwell, and Appledram, and possibly others besides. His will, enrolled in 1347, is printed entire. He was succeeded by his son Thomas, who died in the "Black Death." John de Romeneye, one of Peter de Weston's executors, possibly made a group of bells, marked R, still in existence. He was a well-to-do man, and, when he died in 1349, he founded and endowed a chantry at St. Botolph's, Aldgate. Peter de Weston's stepson, William de Raughton, was probably a bell-founder, though none of his bells are known. In his will he makes mention of

William Ryvel, many of whose bells have been found (Norwich and Kent), and who came into possession of Peter de Weston's letters.

About the end of the fourteenth century the term "potter" was supplanted by those of "founder" and "brazier." The Founders' Company received their Ordinances in 1365, the Braziers not until 1416, though they had been in existence for at least fifty years. Robert Rider, who probably died in 1386, is sometimes called "potter," sometimes "brazier." He made bells now at Ford and Hartley. William Rofforde, who made bells about the middle of the fourteenth century, and Derby, who succeeded him, are known by their existing works. William Burford calls himself in his will (1390) "Civis et Belgeter," but unfortunately none of his bells can be identified. He left his trade utensils to his son Robert, who continued the business for twenty-eight years. He made a bell for Shropham, but it has since been recast. About William, called Founder, "a puzzle to campanists," our author has a theory. He believes him to have been a contemporary of the Burfords, and conjectures that his real name was Bird. His bell inscriptions are sometimes in Lombardic capitals, sometimes in black-letter, so that he must have belonged to the beginning of the fifteenth century. One of his bells is at Magdalen College, Oxford, and several others are known.

An interesting fact revealed by Mr. Stahl Schmidt is that about the year 1420 there existed in London a "Guild of Belle-makers." They never had Ordinances granted to them, and so never attained a recognised position. Of London bell-founders after the year 1420 Mr. Stahl Schmidt only concerns himself with a small group. The first of them is Richard Hille, who died in 1440. His widow carried on his foundry, as we know from an existing contract for bells (1441) made between her and certain parishioners of the parish of Faversham, Kent. From another contract (1459) with the same parish it seems that the widow had married again, and was again a widow, for she is called "Johane Sturdy, Widewe." Certain known bells with a mark called the "cross and ring," surmounted by a lozenge and flanked by the letters IS., are probably hers; the same without the initials would designate her bells in her first widowhood, while the mark alone would point to the work of Richard Hille. Bells with all three stages of the mark are known. Some of Johanna's letters went to Stephen Norton. Richard Hille's daughter married Henry Jordan, who cast a bell for King's College, Cambridge, and one still at Tarring Neville. William Chamberlayne, one of the witnesses to Jordan's will, was a member of the Court of the Founders' Company in 1497-98, from which year their existing records begin.

As to the bells of Surrey, Mr. Stahl Schmidt finds them, on the whole, of little interest from an antiquarian point of view. He estimates that the county possesses about 1,030 church bells, of which twenty-two only were cast in pre-Reformation times, and thirteen more before the year 1600. Only seven have inscriptions in Lombardic capitals. These are at Chalden (the church famous for a twelfth-century wall-painting), Bisley, Wotton, Chelsham, Limpsfield (recast, with

facsimile of inscription), and Chertsey. A bell at Pyrford, near Woking, is a puzzle. The inscription upon it is in sunk letters, many of them upside down and all in reverse. No sense can be made of them. Moreover, the date of the bell is quite uncertain, though it cannot well be older than the seventeenth century.

Incidentally Mr. Stahl Schmidt is led to give, in this part, an account of two important foundries. The Whitechapel Foundry is first heard of under the direction of Robert Mot, who died in 1608. It came successively into the hands of two generations of Carters and three of Bartlett's. At the beginning of the eighteenth century it belonged to Richard Phelps, who was succeeded by his foreman, Thomas Lester. It was worked in succession by the partners, Lester and Pack, Pack and Chapman, Chapman and Mears, and then by William Mears alone (1784). It remained in the Mears family down to the year 1865, "Big Ben" being cast there by George Mears in 1858. In 1865 it passed into the hands of Stainbank, and is still carried on by his representatives.

The Chertsey Foundry was started about 1619 by the Eldridge family, who had been founders for generations; it was carried on by them for about a hundred years, and numerous bells of their making are still in use.

Mr. Stahl Schmidt has noted down whatever survivals of peculiar uses, dating from pre-Reformation times, he has come across. He says, "It is a matter of great regret that I am unable to give these more fully, one half the parish clergy having thrown into their waste-paper baskets my application for information." The volume concludes with an elaborate catalogue, alphabetically arranged, of all the church bells in the county. The printing and paper are good, the woodcut illustrations numerous and of a serviceable kind.

W. M. CONWAY.

NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

READERS of the ACADEMY who have followed the long discussion on the Greek inscription at Brough will be interested to know that the original stone has been purchased for the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge. Our various correspondents seem to have at length arrived at a fair degree of agreement respecting the general tenour of the inscription; it may be hoped that its removal to a place where it can be more conveniently examined may result in settling the points in the reading which still remain open to dispute. Considering the great interest of this relic, it is a matter of some surprise that an effort was not made to secure it for the British Museum.

THE programme of the *Magazine of Art* for the new volume is of great promise, and this is a magazine which fulfils its promises. The brilliance of its staff appears to increase rather than diminish, and amongst the novelties of its inviting announcement is a series of "Poems and Pictures" printed in colour and occupying a single page. The first, "A Visit from the Sea," the joint production of Miss Alice Hewers and Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson, will appear in the November part. Some of the prose articles to which we shall specially look forward are "The New Forest," by Mrs. Henry Fawcett and A. W. Henley; Prof. Colvin's "East Suffolk Memories"; Mr. Basil Champ-

ney's "Inigo Jones"; "Chodowiecki," by Mr. Austin Dobson; "Hokusai," by Mr. R. L. Stevenson; "Bookbinding," by Mr. Andrew Lang; and "Goya's Legends," by the editor.

MONDAY, October 13, has been appointed as the receiving day for the works of art intended for the autumn exhibition of the "Nineteenth Century Art Society," at the Conduit Street Galleries.

THE annual exhibition of the Photographic Society of Great Britain is now being held in the gallery of the old Water-colour Society. Sig. Vittorio Sella appears as a rival of Mr. H. F. Donkin's marvellous series of Alpine scenes. The success of instantaneous photography is best seen in Messrs. G. West & Son's "Yachts racing in the Solent," taken from a sailing boat, which deserves the medal it has received; in M. G. Grassin's "Express Train," where the exposure was only one three-hundredth part of a second; and in Mr. M. Auty's "Lightning," which will be a surprise to most beholders. Of the two classes, the landscapes please us more than the portraits. As regards the possibilities of the future, much interest attaches to the platinotype prints, and also to the photo-engravings exhibited by Messrs. T. & R. Annan, of Glasgow. From a technical point of view it is noteworthy that the original negatives have been taken, almost without exception, on gelatine plates.

THE Industrial Exhibition at Bristol is well arranged and full of interesting objects. Among the pictures may be specially noted the fine collection of drawings by Muller, and among the modern products the splendid show of pottery made at Clevedon Court by Sir Edmund Elton. The boldness and originality of the slightly raised designs, and the richness of its variegated colouring, give "Elton Ware" an individuality which it would be very difficult to imitate.

THE Brighton Art Loan Exhibition, under the presidency of the Earl of Chichester, which is to be opened on October 18, promises to be one of the most important of local efforts of the kind. The list of Vice-Presidents and Committee includes the names of numerous well-known collectors and possessors of pictures, both ancient and modern, of the highest class. Besides the usual contributions to such exhibitions, there will be a series of apartments furnished and fitted up to represent different periods of English domestic art, manners, and costumes.

ABOUT three years ago Mr. John Leyland published a folio volume containing twenty-five *Views of Ancient Buildings in Halifax*, which met with a deserved success. He is now desirous of selling the original drawings made for that work, which ought to find their way to some public library in Yorkshire, or to a collector interested in the history of English domestic architecture. Mr. Leyland's address is Elm Lea, Perry Vale, Forest Hill.

ON October 18 Messrs. Wilkinson & Son will sell by auction, at Brighton, a valuable collection of mezzotint engravings, the property of a member of the family of the late Mr. Laurie, of Fleet Street, by whose firm they were published. The collection includes many portraits after Reynolds, Gainsborough, Vandyke, and others. A number of choice prints by Strange, Bartolozzi, and other engravers, will be offered for sale at the same time.

MESSRS. W. SWAN SONNENSCHN & Co. have in preparation a work by Mr. Graham Everitt, entitled *English Caricaturists and Graphic Humourists of the Nineteenth Century*, illustrated by reproductions of early caricatures and book illustrations.

THE same publishers announce two "fine art

toy books—*In and Out*, and *Harlequin Eggs*—the illustrations being by Miss Chitty, and the verse by "Isamay Thorne."

IN the *Chronique de l'Art* M. Eugène Müntz gives an interesting account of his discovery in the Bibliothèque nationale of a new MS. of Piero della Francesca's "Treatise on Perspective." It is a copy of the tenth century in Latin, and reproduces the drawings of the original, two of which, reduced, are given in the *Chronique*, and show Piero's canon of the human head. M. Müntz cites a curious passage in which Piero proclaims the superiority of Apelles and other Greek painters over the moderns, and prophesies that if modern artists would follow their manner of painting, instead of seeking the applause of ignorant persons, they would achieve a lasting fame. As Piero's admiration for ancient Greek painting must have been based on faith—"the evidence of things not seen," and as his own known work inclined strongly to naturalism—this passage is sufficiently remarkable.

MUSIC.

Schumann. By J. A. Fuller Maitland. (Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, & Rivington.)

THIS is another number of the series of "The Great Musicians." Chronological order is not the editor's first law: Dr. Hueffer first gave us Wagner, then came Bach, Handel, and others, and now we have Schumann. It matters, however, little how these biographies are brought out so long as they are good. Mr. Maitland speaks of his sketch of the life of Robert Schumann as imperfect: it is so, but not owing to any fault of his. Many of the composer's intimate friends and celebrated contemporaries have passed away, but many are living; so that for the present the whole material for a biography is scarcely available. His illustrious widow, too, is still with us; and let us hope that, like her father, she will live to a ripe old age, since what she is now doing for art and for her husband's music more than compensates us for any documents or information naturally withheld for the time. And not only does Mr. Maitland confess that his little book is imperfect, but also that it lacks originality. The fact is, an excellent life of Schumann has been written in German by Wasielewski, and other valuable notices of the composer have appeared from time to time, so our author's position was a difficult one: he frankly tells us his book is "mainly based on the work of others." Yet it is interesting, and, moreover, well arranged. First we have the artist's life. His early musical feats, his happy days at Heidelberg, his visit to Italy, his Leipzig period of study under Wieck and Dorn, the "Davidsbund," his love trials, and, after years of suspense, his marriage with the gifted pianiste Clara Wreck, are well described in two short chapters; the third, containing an account of the last period of his life, is appropriately entitled "The shadow of death." Sad and gloomy were the closing years of the great tone-poet; the misfortunes of the man may excite our sympathy, but they appeal, of course, more especially to those who knew and loved him. What we have to deplore is the fatal malady which obscured and finally destroyed one of the strongest and keenest intellects of the post-Beethoven period. Mr. Maitland gives a list of the various pseudonyms adopted by Schumann for himself and his friends, and it will be much appreciated by those who play his music or read his articles. The two concluding chapters of the book are about Schumann as a writer, and about his critics. Of his own excellence as a critic we have signal proof: in nearly every case the verdict of later years has confirmed the judgments which he pronounced upon men

who, when he wrote about them were only beginning to be known—three names stand out prominently, Berlioz, Chopin, and Brahms. Mr. Maitland, speaking of Schumann's literary talent, says "such power has not been exhibited by any other practical musician before or since, with the single exception of Wagner." Did he forget Berlioz? The name of the French musician recalls another statement of Mr. Maitland's, "from Berlioz there came no direct criticism of any work of Schumann's." So far as we know this is true, but why did he quote a sentence from one of Berlioz' letters about Schumann's opinion of his "Offertorium" rather than the short though interesting reference to Schumann's pianoforte works in Berlioz' letter to the composer written from Paris in 1837. Berlioz speaks of them as "the logical continuation of those by Weber, Beethoven, and Schubert," and also as "essentially new and progressive compositions."

Schumann's critics in this country thirty years ago were not very discerning; the one or two extracts from newspapers of that date which Mr. Maitland gives show us how times and opinions have changed, and for the better. The terms of praise in which Schumann is now spoken of by writers of any note, and the enthusiasm everywhere shown by the public, make, at any rate, some amends for the hasty expressions, prejudice, and indifference of the past.

The chronological table of Schumann's life and works at the end of the book is very useful; but two tables, one containing the events, the other the list of works, would have been handier for reference. The death of Mendelssohn is mentioned, yet it scarcely comes under "Events of his Life" (i.e., Schumann's). We notice op. 66, and again op. 109, described merely as "pianoforte duet." J. S. SHEDLOCK.

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